

Hafa Adai!

Dynasty owes CNMI \$125,452
in taxes this year.

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Bennett pleads guilty, gets
four-day prison term.

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Tourism money is essential moving piece in budget play

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

The reallocation of Marianas Visitors Authority earmarks remains the essential building piece for lawmakers who intend to pass a budget bill that first moves power bill funds from the local hospital, as well as money for public streetlights, in order to fund salary increases for department heads on Tinian and Rota, among others, while making up for the hospital's million of dollars shortfall by having MVA earmarks foot the hospital bill bottom line.

See TOURISM on Page 4

Search team finds Deng's spear gun

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The multi-agency search and rescue team found Saturday the spear gun used by Jian Zhu Deng but the team later suspended the search effort with still no trace of the 51-year-old Chinese businessman.

The Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Service Search and Rescue Unit recov-

ered the spear gun from the lower level of the Banzai cliff line at 10:49am, according to acting Department of Public Safety spokesman Jason Tarkong yesterday.

Tarkong said family and friends confirmed that it was indeed Deng's spear gun.

Tarkong said the five-day search was suspended Saturday at noon.

See SEARCH on Page 4

» **Five-day
search efforts
suspended**

Meteorologist: Soudelor should be a lesson

» **El Niño will
increase tropical
cyclone risk in the
Marianas to 30 pct.**

By FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA
frauline_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Typhoon Soudelor, the strongest cyclone on Earth so far this year, was only a strong

Category 3 typhoon when it hit Saipan on Aug. 2, but its impact should already be a lesson, according to a meteorologist.

"This should be a lesson

on what's a Category 3, what it can do. But there's another level, there's the [Category] 4 then you get into the [Category] 5. That's an unimaginable level when the winds really are

200 miles an hour," Dr. Mark Lander of the Water and Environmental Research Institute of the University of Guam told *Saipan Tribune* in a recent interview.

Lander said Soudelor

See SOUDELOR on Page 4

DENNIS B. CHAN
House and Senate lawmakers look over a new proposal that both House and Senate lawyers agree could direct—within the Legislature's authority—the Marianas Visitors Authority to move earmarked funds to government agencies.

INSIDE



LOCAL

Seven public elementary schools benefit from KKMP's two-day radio-thon.

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NATION

Two Northern California wildfires destroy more than 180 homes.

» PAGE 13



WORLD

Germany introduces temporary border controls to stem the tide of refugees.

» PAGE 14



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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Last January, Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman ordered Gibo's temporary release as the person qualified to perform his psychiatric evaluation could not be found. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)



Bennett pleads guilty, gets four-day prison term

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Former Board of Education teacher representative Ambrose M. Bennett pleaded guilty yesterday to disturbing the peace and was slapped with a four-day prison term.

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho accepted Bennett's guilty plea and sentenced him to the maximum of six months imprisonment, all suspended except for four days.

Camacho gave the 64-year-old Bennett credit for four days of time served. That means Bennett will be released at once.

The retired teacher, who is also an advocate for the full legalization of marijuana in the CNMI, was placed on supervised probation for one year and ordered to pay a \$200 fine, \$25 court costs, and \$100 probation fee. He was ordered to pay his wife for the damage her car sustained during their altercation. The amount will be determined later.

Bennett was required to report to the Community Guidance Center for anger management counseling and marital counseling, and to complete any rec-



Bennett

ommended treatment. After pleading not guilty during his arraignment yesterday before Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja, Bennett proceeded to Camacho's courtroom, where he then pleaded guilty.

Bennett, through assistant public defender Tillman Clark, waived the need for a presentence investigation report.

During the proceedings, Bennett was seen holding hands with his wife, Lillian Deleon Guerrero Bennett. Ambrose Bennett apologized to his wife, to the court, and to the whole community for his action.

Lillian Bennett also addressed the court. She told the court she has forgiven her husband and that he did not threaten or hurt her. She said she only got scared because he was hitting the car.

After the hearing, Bennett was seen talking with his wife, then they kissed.

Assistant public defender Chester Hinds filed an informa-

tion charging Bennett with only a count of disturbing the peace.

According to the factual basis of the plea deal, on Aug. 23, 2015 on Saipan, Bennett disturbed the peace of his wife during their ar-

gument when he hit her car with a hammer without the intent to strike her but still causing her to be scared and to call the police. No one was hurt or injured.

Police detective Vincent A.

Igisaiar stated in his report that Bennett allegedly got mad when his wife told him that she was going back to her parents' house in Gualo Rai to help take care of her sick father.

Bennett went out of their house in Kagman 3 and allegedly hit twice the hood of the car with a hammer. At the time, his sister-in-law was inside the car with her infant.

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IT&E selects Ericsson to enhance wireless networks in the CNMI

Ericsson has been selected by IT&E to enhance its radio and core network in the CNMI following the devastating impact last month of Typhoon Soudelor. IT&E will not only more than double its HSPA network capacity in Saipan, Rota, and Tinian, but will also launch a new, 4G LTE network on Saipan.

Ericsson will enable IT&E to meet growing customer demand for mobile data and wireless broadband services while delivering superior network performance. On 4G LTE, IT&E customers will be able to enjoy an improved smartphone experience, with faster Web browsing, downloads, video on demand, and many other services.

» **First LTE network on the island of Saipan**
» **Enhanced communications to benefit residents and disaster relief teams following Typhoon Soudelor**
» **Will also double the capacity of IT&E's existing HSPA network**

our outlook for the CNMI and continue to invest heavily in its development."

Wireless communications and Internet access via mobile Devices are key elements in enabling recovery teams to secure vital resources such as water, food, shelter, and health care in times of emergency. The investment made by IT&E in the partnership with Ericsson will support the relief efforts of teams such as the American Red Cross, Karidat, and others who can help the recovery of the residents of Saipan.

Equipment began arriving on Saipan in late August, despite difficult logistical conditions on the island. The first benefits of the joint IT&E and Ericsson efforts to improve communications should be seen as early as September.

Angel Ruiz, head of Ericsson North America, says: "Ericsson has a history of working closely with its operator customers to provide vital communications to communities in times of disaster. We're committed to working closely with IT&E to bring next-generation wireless networks to the residents of the CNMI, to benefit them during this time of crisis and for the long-term technological growth of the island." (IT&E)

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Joeten-Kiyu Public Library still closed

For a month and a half now, Saipan's public library has remained closed after Typhoon Soudelor wreaked havoc on the island. The Joeten-Kiyu Public Library was not spared by Soudelor and suffered several damage.

According to acting library director Erlinda Cabrera Naputi, the

library's roof, ceiling, front circulation counter, Information Technology Center, and the Young Adult areas all sustained damage.

She said that efforts are being made to stop the spread of mold and prevent further damage to books. Some of the books were also affected by humidity.

Naputi said the library will remain closed until the damage is repaired and until power services are restored as they are unable to adequately serve the public without water and power.

The library said it is working closely with the Inos administration to have emergency gen-

erators. They are also reaching out to FEMA regarding their damage.

Despite the library being closed, JKPL still found a way to reach out to members of the public who are in need of reading materials.

"In an effort to get read-

ing materials into the hands of the general public, the library is offering free books or book exchange rack, three times a week," Naputi said.

The free book or book exchange rack is open every

Wednesday and Thursday from 9am to 1pm and on Friday from 2pm to 4pm. There is a limit of three books per patron. For more information, call JKPL at 235-7316. **(Frau-leine S. Villanueva)**

UOG announces \$6M grant award for marine research

MANGILAO, Guam—The National Science Foundation has awarded a \$6 million grant to the University of Guam through its Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research, or EPSCoR, program for coastal ecosystems research. The funding is for five years and represents one of the single largest grants awarded in UOG history.

"The grant award is the culmination of a University-wide collaborative effort over the last three years," said Dr. Robert Underwood, UOG president. "The EPSCoR project elevates the university into a new league for research endeavors and provides access to additional funding beyond the NSF through the EPSCoR network and a possibility of even more in the next funding cycle."

The UOG Marine Laboratory will spearhead the EPSCoR project, which will evaluate how marine ecosystems and fragile coral reefs respond and adapt to environmental and climate stressors. Guam will function as a "living laboratory" to investigate the sustainability of marine coastal environments under changing sea levels, sea-surface temperatures, and water quality conditions in the Western Pacific.

"Our Marine Laboratory has been a top research location for researchers," said Dr. Terry Donaldson, UOG Marine Laboratory director. "With EPSCoR funding, the University of Guam's capabilities will be greatly enhanced as it conducts cutting edge research on climate change effects on coral reef sys-

tems."

UOG EPSCoR will incorporate scientific discoveries into regional teaching programs, graduate education and public participation in scientific research. The project will also enhance the University's cyberinfrastructure and Internet connectivity to meet the comprehensive data exchange requirements of the project.

"We've always been proud of the first-rate researchers and teachers at UOG, but with this award we leap-frog into the front row," said Dr. John Peterson, UOG assistant vice president of Graduate Studies, Research and Sponsored Programs. "Young scholars, faculty and students, will have new opportunities to participate and collaborate in an international

network of higher education, and we expect to contribute more to our regional workforce through natural resources and IT management and support."

The Principal investigator for the grant is Donaldson, and co-principal investigators are Peterson, Dr. Jason Biggs, associate professor, UOG Marine Laboratory and Dr. Laura Biggs, assistant professor.

The mission of EPSCoR is to assist the National Science Foundation in its statutory function "to strengthen research and education in science and engineering throughout the United States and to avoid undue concentration of such research and education." For this grant cycle, NSF also awarded EPSCoR grants to Arkansas, Louisiana and West Virginia. **(UOG)**

SEARCH

From Page 1

Searches resumed Saturday morning utilizing multiple assets from DPS Police and Boating Safety Unit, DFEMS, Commonwealth Ports Authority's harbor patrol vessels, surface swimmers, shoreline teams, and

aerial searches from Naval Helicopter Squadron HSC-25.

U.S. Coast Guard Sector Guam Lt. Clinton Graham said the search efforts that were done for five continuous days starting last Tuesday covered approximately 2,390 square miles and 220 hours.

Graham said the search was a unified effort between

Saipan DPS, DFEMS, Naval Squadron HSC-25, Coast Guard Sector Guam, and U.S. Air Force Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii and Kadena Air Base, Kadena Japan.

"All agencies involved send their deepest heartfelt condolences to the friends and family of Jian Zhu Deng," said Graham in a news release.

Deng, manager of the family-owned Deng Shi Auto Shop in Garapan, reportedly went spear fishing at Banzai Cliff last Monday, Sept. 7, at 6pm, but never returned home.

Family members found Deng's Nissan Pathfinder at Banzai Cliff the following morning, Sept. 8. The vehicle was locked.

TOURISM

From Page 1

This, in a nutshell, is how some House representatives think of their Senate counterparts' proposed fiscal year 2016 budget provisions, which sources salary increases from hospital utility subsidies, but makes up for this \$2 million shortfall by directing MVA to fork over this amount from excise tax revenues that Gov. Eloy S. Inos has earmarked for the tourism body.

All these against the backdrop of a racing clock that requires a budget to be passed by Sept. 30—the end of the fiscal year—or the Commonwealth government will be forced to shut down.

According to a Senate financial analyst who was consulted during a budget conference meeting yesterday, the Senate sourced their provisions for salary increases out of some \$4.2 million from which the Department of Public Works was set to get some \$1 million to \$2 million for streetlights, and the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. was to get some \$2 million for utilities.

Rep. Felicidad Ogumoro (R-Saipan) repeated yesterday that she would not allow CHCC money to be touched.

Sen. Jude U. Hofschneider (R-Tinian), on the other hand, urged for "equity" for all senatorial districts, noting that department heads in these districts "are equally significant."

Under the Senate provisions, department heads on Rota and Tinian would see their salaries jump from \$36,000 to \$45,000.

These provisions, under "Section 607. Salary Cap Exemption," also amend the annual salary of Tinian and Rota deputy commissioners to \$45,000.

The provision also boosts from \$54,000 the salary of the special assistant for management and budget/CIP administrator—Vicki Villagomez—to "not less than \$62,000."

Rep. Antonio Sablan (Ind-Saipan) noted the "merits" of the increases and said they appreciated the responsibilities of these positions but said that that these provisions will be impacted based on where they go with the Senate's provisions on "outside sources," which appear to fund the salary increases.

Sec. 712 of the Senate's budget bill directs MVA to move some \$2 million to CHCC for utilities, and in essence, makes up for the money used to raise salaries.

"We are essentially taking away from CHCC subsidy and streetlight funding," said Sablan.

"When we touch streetlights or the CHCC subsidy we have to find a way to replace that."

Sablan said the "justification [for salary increases] was not the issue, it is the source of funding."

At one point in their afternoon discussion, when CHCC was brought up again, Ogumoro said budgeting was "all about priorities."

"Say what our priorities are and prioritize our monies accordingly," she said, urging lawmakers to stay away from CHCC funds.

To this, Sen. Arnold Palacios (R-Saipan) said the MVA reallocation "is replacing that money."

"If you look at the bottom line, we are not taking the money away," Palacios said.

"At the end of the day, CHCC is still going to have that funding," added Sen. Steve K. Megson (R-Rota).

Cool's proposal

While lawmakers debated salary increase funding sources and funding to the courts in the morning, House and Senate legal counsels discussed separately their jarring legal positions on the amending of earmarks statutes within a budget bill.

Emerging from this discussion in the afternoon part of the meeting, both House and Senate

legal counsels said they still disagreed over the constitutionality or their respective authority or lack of authority in reallocating MVA funds.

However, House counsel John Cool offered one proposal that the House and Senate debated the rest of the day.

According to the lawyer, a provision in the Planning and Budget Act—which is part of the Commonwealth Code—allows that "the budget programs of each government corporation shall be transmitted to the Legislature for approval, rejection, or modification as a part of the annual budget submission."

Cool said he went to the Act's definition for "governmental corporations" and included on the list of government corporations was the Marianas Visitors Authority.

In short, if laid out as a provision in the Budget Act, the Legislature could "modify" the MVA budget via this authority.

A draft of this proposed "compromise" was shared later among lawmakers. In essence, it takes the Senate's provisions on "outside sources" which directs MVA to help fund Divisions of Customs equipment and the hospital utilities, and adds them under a "Sec. 301" of the budget under "Appropriation and Budget Authority."

SOUDELOR

From Page 1

should be a wakeup call that there are stronger categories of typhoons that are more destructive and catastrophic.

"It should make people think. What happened here is a solid, very strong typhoon but not catastrophic. It wasn't up into the [Category] 4, it might just have been touching 4 but its nowhere near 5; it wasn't a super typhoon. That should make people go, 'If that was a [Category] 3, what's a [Category] 4? What's a [Category] 5?'" Lander said.

Super typhoons or Category 5's—which Soudelor grew into before it reached Taiwan, and Haiyan that devastated the central Philippines in 2013—are unbelievable in strength and will do structural damage to buildings, he said.

"Cars fly in Category 5. They literally go airborne," said Lander, who is working on a post-Soudelor assessment with Chip Guard of the National Weather Service in Guam.

Increased risk due to El Niño

The year 2015 is currently an El Niño year. As of Sept. 10, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Climate Prediction Center said in its monthly advisory that there is an approximately 95 percent chance that El Niño will continue through the Northern Hemisphere winter of 2015-16 and

will gradually weaken through spring 2016.

"The forecaster consensus unanimously favors a strong El Niño," it added.

The advisory also stated that "El Niño will likely contribute... to above-normal hurricane seasons in both the central and eastern Pacific hurricane basins."

According to Lander, with El Niño, typhoon risks will increase in the western Pacific and that the region should expect more typhoons until January.

"When they're forming east we're not safe," Lander said. "They can keep forming far to the east and go through our area all the way through January."

He added that the risk of a typhoon passing by or hitting the Marianas goes up from 10 percent to 30 percent during a strong El Niño season.

"It increases the risk, there will be typhoons. Still more will go somewhere, south of Guam, north of Saipan," Lander said.

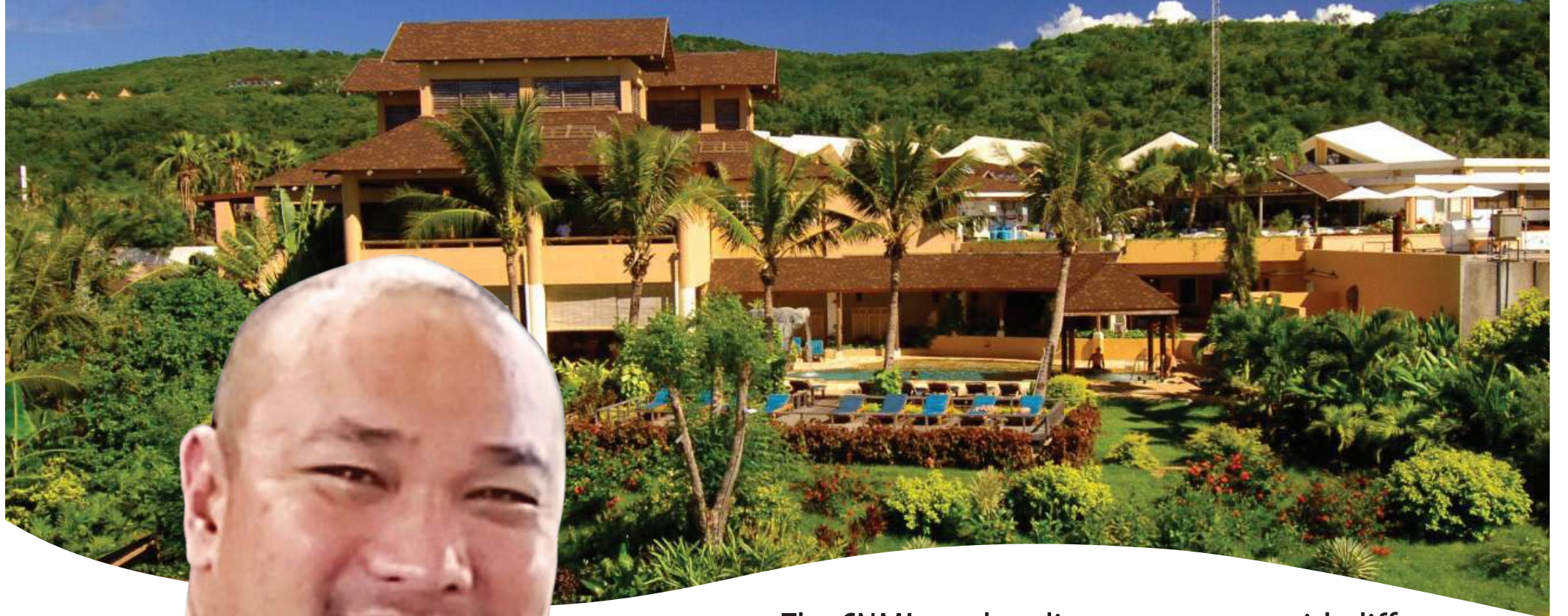
On average, about four cyclones on any given year will pass within a 180 nautical miles of any point in the Marianas. This year, Soudelor was already the fifth tropical cyclone to pass the region.

However, after all the tropical cyclones, El Niño also brings with it drought subsequent to its peak.

"The whole Micronesia and Hawaii enter the drought and it could be another epic drought," Lander said, adding that CNMI and Guam will also be affected.

"Everybody dries out after a strong El Niño," he added.

Diversity



The CNMI needs a diverse economy with different investors for a prosperous future. New ideas and opportunities should be encouraged. Kan Pacific has demonstrated that it is a responsible, productive and valuable tenant that has provided hundreds of good jobs and millions of dollars of tax and lease revenue for more than 37 years. Forcing it out of business for a speculative idea is economically irresponsible. Existing businesses and new ones must work side-by-side.

Renewing Kan Pacific's lease is economically responsible, makes good sense and is simply the right thing to do for our island and our families.

Prenell Robert B. Bansil
Transportation Dept. Supervisor

FSA opens applications for non-insured disaster crop assistance

By FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA
frauline_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Agency is already accepting applicants for their non-insured disaster crop assistance for the next year.

According to USDA FSA county executive director

Thomas Camacho, the assistance program is a tool that can be used by commercial farmers to manage their risks.

"In the event of a natural disaster, or any adverse weather-related condition, the United States Department of Agriculture basically can come in and provide them with assistance

with their loss in yield," Camacho said.

He pointed out that there are no catastrophic insurance companies willing to go to the CNMI and provide insurance coverage for produce for yield-based crops.

In light of the devastation that Typhoon Soudelor brought

to Saipan including the island's produce, the program will be a valuable tool for farmers, and Camacho hopes more farmers will sign up for it.

"We hope that the producers look at this as a risk management tool to cover any losses in income that they may have as a result of the natural disaster that affects their yield," Camacho said.

New applicants will be under the program for 2016, and their policy will go into effect on Jan. 1. This means that those whose crops got damaged because of Soudelor but are not under the

assistance program for 2015 will not be covered.

Camacho said that they don't usually start this early in signing up farmers but they already received about six new applications.

For 2015, Camacho said they have 11 producers on Saipan who are part of the non-insured disaster crop assistance and will be getting benefits.

"The process is going to take awhile but what we have done already is we have done the initial assessments; we have done all the farm visits for 10 of the 11," Camacho said.

In terms of benefits, it depends on the crop and their production.

"It really depends on the type of crop, how much of the crop was growing, the stage of the crop, was it in production," Camacho said.

Farmers who want to apply may schedule an appointment with Camacho by calling (671) 929-4479. He will be in the CNMI until Friday.

Camacho added that farmers can still sign up for the non-insured disaster crop assistance until Dec. 1 and may call (670) 234-0896.



POST-TYPHOON CLEANUP

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Associate Justice John A. Manglona participates in the Judiciary's recent cleanup operation. Justices and judges led the removal of debris and cleanup at the Judicial Complex in Susupe

Local artists sought for Pacific NexGen Artists program

HONOLULU, Hawaii—The Pacific Islands Society has announced the next edition of its Pacific Next Generation Artists Program, which targets visual artists (aged 35 and below) from the Pacific Islands.

The 2016 Pacific NexGen Artists program will provide regional artists with a global stage to showcase their talents. Successful applicants will be given their own virtual gallery on the PacSoc website as well as marketing and communications support to create global awareness for their brand. Participants will also be invited to

contribute thought leadership articles about contemporary issues in Pacific art.

Jeffrey Feeger, a participant from the inaugural class of 2014 Pacific NexGen Artists, says the program "enables young artists to establish a collective presence. In this way, we can be supportive of each other's passions and encourage one another's growth."

PacSoc is now accepting applications from the following countries, territories, prefectures, and states: Fiji, Tonga, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Vanuatu, Kiribati, Nauru, Solo-

mon Islands, New Zealand, Federated States of Micronesia, Palau, Niue, Republic of Marshall Islands, Tuvalu, French Polynesia, New Caledonia, American Samoa, Tokelau, Guam, Timor-Leste, Wallis and Futuna, Hawaii, Okinawa, and the Northern Mariana Islands.

Prospective applicants should forward a one-page expression of interest, 5-10 high-resolution photos of their best work, and any coverage that their art has received in local media to pr@islandsociety.org by 17:00 GMT on Oct. 1, 2015. (PR.com)

Needs of outer islands is the top climate change lessons learned at Pacific meeting

KOLONIA, Yap State, FSM—The special needs of outer island communities must be considered in the planning and design of climate change adaptation projects.

That was a clear message stressed by participants at the Global Climate Change Alliance: Pacific Small Islands States project's "lessons learned" meeting that recently concluded in Yap State in the Federated States of Micronesia.

The Secretariat of the Pacific Community, in partnership with the European Union, hosted this important reflective consultation involving 70 participants from Pacific Island states and other development partners.

Besides logistical challenges such as limited transportation, climate change adaptation projects must be sensitive to the particular customs and ways of life in outer islands, which include traditional governance structures and unique local languages.

"It is critical to communicate in the local language because when people understand what we are saying, they are able to engage and fully contribute to project activities," the project's Country Coordinator in Cook Islands, Teina Rongo, said.

"Combining traditional and local knowledge with scientific data is important in understanding the impacts of climate change and variability in our islands," he added.

Participants also discussed ways to measure the impact of climate change adaption activities in outer islands.

There is a need to develop indicators that include culture, customs, market forces, sources of income, and population dynamics.

"The only income earners are teachers and local government officials who comprise less than 10 percent of the population," said FSM Assistant Secretary, Resources and Development, Alissa Takesy, referring to FSM's outer islands.

"It is a subsistence community so measuring against a cash economy isn't always suitable; we need to include islanders' traditional rights to land and marine resources."

Recognizing the special needs of communities and of groups such as children, women, those with disabilities and the elderly was also discussed.

Participants had the opportunity to visit Fais Island in Yap State in FSM and see for themselves the project activities that provided rainwater catchment systems for household compounds and the refurbishment of a community well.

"Everyone has the right to clean water, which is a scarce commodity in the outer islands, where people have to walk long distances to secure water for their families," GCCA: PSIS Climate Change Coordinator

in FSM, Belinda Hadley, said. "This project is really benefitting the women and children since they are ones tasked with carting water to the homes every day."

The EU Delegation for the Pacific's program manager for Infrastructure and Natural Resources, Martin Chong, reiterated that "the lessons learned by the nine participating countries and SPC as the EU implementing partner, and shared openly over the two days of the meeting amounts to a real positive output from the project as a whole."

Chong added, "With the effects of climate change being the common challenge, the lessons learned and the projects implemented in each country can be replicated as demonstrated by the South-South collaboration between Tonga and Palau, specifically looking at the coastal adaptation measures in Tongatapu and their possible application in Palau where similar challenges exist."

The project also launched nine country climate change adaptation videos at the meeting.

These videos, produced by SPC, highlight some of the stories and experiences, as well as the lessons learned from the implementation of the project.

To view the full set of videos, visit [https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLCq-WnF3H-dri67k5l3c-ew7AyfhQcWIXq.\(SPC\)](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLCq-WnF3H-dri67k5l3c-ew7AyfhQcWIXq.(SPC))

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'It's now time for Tinian to think about the big picture'

In response to ongoing concerns about the impending closure of the Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino, Tinian Mayor Joey P. San Nicolas said "the time is now for Tinian to start thinking about the big picture" when it comes to attracting investments to the island.

"The devastating impact of our lone casino's closure should teach us that we must find ways to attract, encourage, and diversify the types of investments that we bring to our islands," he said.

In order to accomplish this goal, San Nicolas said that Tinian needs to be creative in identifying solutions to the ongoing infrastructure problems that has long been in the way of the island's development.

"My predecessors faced the same fiscal restraints I face today regarding our infrastructure needs. Money is always going to be the problem. That is why I have been working aggressively to develop a partnership with all government agencies involved and the private sector to identify solutions for our most basic infrastructure needs."

San Nicolas said he has been working toward this goal in the last several months by working with the central government and its various agencies to assess, identify issues, and develop an action plan to begin working toward a solution to Tinian's in-

frastructure challenges.

Most recently, San Nicolas organized a summit on Saipan, inviting various public and private stakeholders to discuss and address Tinian's landfill problem. As a result of the summit, Tinian is now moving forward to finally address this issue, San Nicolas said, by partnering up with the Alter City Group, which has agreed to provide funding to fence and contain the current landfill, with the ultimate goal of capping it.

"This is a short-term solution to our landfill problem but as of this moment, Tinian can now say that the problem is being addressed," he added.

San Nicolas will also meet with Commonwealth Ports Authority executive director Mary Anne Lizama to discuss landing direct flights on Tinian. For the past couple of months, he has been working on an action plan with his leadership team and the Tinian Legislative Delegation to assess potential challenges and to identify funding sources to allow for direct flights prior to the completion of Tinian's ongoing airport renovation.

"Typhoon Soudelor has taught us that the survival of our tourism/casino industry and our fragile local economy requires that we have the ability to land direct flights on Tinian. I have been working

toward that goal and it is my hope, with the help of CPA, the Tinian Legislative Delegation and our private partners, to welcome direct international flights to Tinian before the end of this year."

The announcement of the Dynasty's closure has raised numerous concerns over Tinian's ability to sustain its essential public programs, continued employment of municipal employees, and displacement of hundreds of CW workers, most of whom have lived on Tinian for over 10 years.

"My primary job as mayor is to ensure the betterment of

every single person who lives on Tinian. Many years ago, Tinian voted to develop a casino industry with the belief that the community will be benefited

by the revenues generated by the casino. Tinian has reaped many benefits from our lone casino. This impending closure should make us all realize the dangers of putting all our eggs in one basket.

As leaders, it is our job to continue to promote and foster this industry and to ensure that one casino's closure does not devastate the whole island's economy."

San Nicolas said he has formed a task force to review



San Nicolas

the 1989 Revised Gaming Act to gather public and private input to make recommendations as to whether amendments to the current Gaming Act is needed. With the assistance of the Tinian Legislative Delegation, he is also looking to advance legislation that would clarify the current Qualifying Certificate program to allow for Tinian casinos to qualify, and legislation that would allow for the creation of partnership programs between private companies and the municipality.

"Investors who want to do business on Tinian can only benefit by partnering with the municipality to develop our infrastructure as this type of investment is necessary for our mutual successes," he said.

San Nicolas believes that the overall success of the CNMI is interdependent on the ability of both Tinian and Rota to develop and grow their own economy. He calls for the assistance of all the leaders of the CNMI, the central government and its agencies, to contribute their efforts and assistances toward this goal.

"We are one CNMI. I ask that we as leaders of the Commonwealth, heads of government agencies, and partners in the private sector, work collaboratively to ensure that each island has the ability to thrive, weather the toughest storms and contribute toward the overall success of the CNMI." (*Office of the Mayor of Tinian and Aguiguan*)

WIOA Dislocated Worker Funding Program

If any of these categories apply to you, please contact WIA.

Category A: General Dislocated Workers. To qualify, an individual must meet the following three criteria:

1. Has been terminated or laid off, or has received a notice of termination or layoff, from employment;
2. Is eligible for or has exhausted entitlement to unemployment compensation; OR has been employed or attached to the workforce for a duration sufficient to demonstrate to WIOA, but is not eligible for unemployment compensation due to insufficient earnings or having performed services for an employer that were not covered under a state unemployment compensation law; and
3. Is unlikely to return to a previous industry or occupation.

Category B: Plant Closure. To qualify, an individual must meet one of the following three criteria:

1. Has been terminated or laid off, or has received a notice of termination or layoff, from employment as a result of any permanent closure of, or any substantial layoff at, plant, facility, or enterprise;
2. Is employed at a facility at which the employer has made a general announcement that such facility close within 180 days; or
3. For purpose of eligibility to receive services other than training, intensive or supportive services under WIOA, is employed at a facility at which the employer has made general announcement that such facility will close.

Category C: Self Employed or Unemployed. To qualify, an individual must meet the following criteria:

1. Was self employed (including employment as a farmer, a rancher, or a fisherman) but is unemployed as a result of general economic conditions in the community in which the individual resides or because of natural disasters.

Category D: is a displaced homemaker;

DISPLACED HOMEMAKER—The term "displaced homemaker" means an individual who has been providing unpaid services to family members in the home and who—

- (A) (i) has been dependent on the income of another family member but is no longer supported by that income; or (ii) is the dependent spouse of a member of the Armed Forces on active duty (as defined in section 101(d)(1) of title 10, United States Code) and whose family income is significantly reduced because of a deployment (as defined in section 991(b) of title 10, United States Code, or pursuant to paragraph (4) of such section), a call or order to active duty pursuant to a provision of law referred to in section 101(a)(13)(B) of title 10, United States Code, a permanent change of station, or the service-connected (as defined in section 101(16) of title 38, United States Code) death or disability of the member; and
- (B) is unemployed or underemployed and is experiencing difficulty in obtaining or upgrading employment.

Category E:

1. Is the spouse of a member of the Armed Forces on active duty (as defined in section 101(d)(1) of title 10, United States Code), and who has experienced a loss of employment as a direct result of relocation to accommodate a permanent change in duty station of such member; or
2. Is the spouse of a member of the Armed Forces on active duty and who meets the criteria described in Displaced Homemaker Definition (B).

You may be able to qualify for services under WIOA's Dislocated Worker Funding Program. All other program eligibility requirements apply.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Saipan: (670) 664-1704/1707/1708/1757 • **Fax:** (670) 664-1710
Email: gov.wia@pticom.com

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Notice to enrollees under Aetna health insurance

If you are enrolled in Aetna health insurance and have not yet received your card, please contact Annie at 664-1140 or Gayla at 664-1100 or stop by the DOF Office of the Secretary to pick up your card. (*PR*)

Survivors, caregivers support meeting on Thursday

All people facing cancer, their family members, and caregivers are invited to the next Commonwealth Cancer Association monthly support meeting scheduled for Thursday, Sept. 17, 2015, starting at 5:30pm at the Hyatt Regency Saipan's Chamolinian Room. To RSVP or for more information, call the CCA at 682-0050 or email at ccamarianas@gmail.com or cca@ccamarianas.org. (*CCA*)

Military training at Warning Area 517, FDM

The U.S. military will conduct training at Warning Area 517:

- Sept. 15-16 from 7:30am to 10pm
- Sept. 17 from 7:30am to 10:30pm
- Sept. 18 from 7:30am to 4pm
- Sept. 19 from 9am to 5pm
- Training will also be conducted at the island of Farallon de Medinilla:
- Sept. 15 from 1:30-10pm

- Sept. 16-17 from 2-10pm
- Sept. 18 from 9am to 4pm
- Sept. 19 from 8am to 8pm

The general public, especially fishermen, commercial pilots and marine tour operators, are advised to stay clear of the areas during the dates and times indicated. (*PR*)

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Attorney for Petitioner Erwin Torres Flores

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF) CASE NO.
THE STATE OF:) 15-0133
)
ELISA ESTEVES) NOTICE OF
AYUYU TORRES,) HEARING ON
) PETITION FOR
DECEASED) LETTERS OF
) ADMINISTRATION

Please take notice that the petition of Erwin Torres Flores for the issuance of letters of administration of this estate shall be heard before the Honorable Judge David A. Wiseman, on the 29th day of September, 2015 at 1:30pm, at the Guma Husticia, Susupe, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Dated this 7th day of August, 2015

/s/ JANET H. KING
Attorney for Petitioner

This community outreach ad is funded by a grant made possible under the USDOL Employment and Training Administration.

Dig offers clues about Guam's ancient residents

HAGATNA, Guam (AP)—Recent studies at an ancient burial site on Tumon Bay is giving archaeologists more insight into the jewelry and ornaments worn by Guam's ancient residents.

Between 2006 and 2008, excavations at the Naton Beach site turned up more than 400 burials from the pre-latte and latte periods of prehistoric Guam, said Judith R. Amesbury, an archaeologist with Micronesian Archaeological Research Services. The oldest burials at the site date back 2,500 years ago.

Anthropologists divide Guam's prehistory -- which refers to any time before writing was introduced to the island -- into two time periods. The first era, the pre-latte period, dates to 1,500 B.C., when the first wave of migration to Guam is believed to have taken place. The latte period, which refers to the time when lattes were first introduced, started around 950 A.D. and continued up to the arrival of Ferdinand Magellan in 1521.

During a presentation at the Latte of Freedom's Hall of Governors, Amesbury spoke about the extent of ornamentation found on ancestral remains buried in the Naton Beach site, saying the number of ornaments found "is extraordinary."

The site, Amesbury said, is the largest group of human remains from the pre-latte period ever discovered in the Marianas, as well as the oldest burials ever discovered. Of the more than 400 burials, more than 150 of them were pre-latte and more than 250 were from the latte period.

During her presentation, Amesbury said there appeared to be a distinct difference in ornamentation between the pre-

latte and latte period burials.

In the pre-latte period, a quarter of the 170 burials found had ornaments and the number of ornaments found exceeded 1,600. These ornaments included a wide range of materials and sizes.

On the smaller side were what researchers labeled "Type 3 Conus beads." These beads were about a quarter of an inch in diameter and more than 1,000 of these were found at the site. In one case, Amesbury said, one woman's remains were found with more than 400 of these beads.

The ornaments also included

the teeth of tiger sharks.

Amesbury said the woman who was buried with the teeth also had what appeared to be a pumice file. Amesbury said it's possible the file was used to make other ornaments.

Also found among the burials were the shells of *Pincta-damaxima*, a species of pearl oyster. Amesbury said three burials had the shell placed over the left shoulder. Of the three, the largest shell measured 35 centimeters across and was found on the remains of a man who was believed to have been in his late 20s at the time of his death.

Amesbury said 11 pre-latte burials were found with red or yellow ochre, a type of pigment made from clay earth.

Amesbury also showed the audience a photograph of teeth belonging to a man's remains that showed circular pits cut into his two front teeth. That, she said, has never been seen before in the Marianas.

Amesbury compared the teeth to something similar found among Mayan remains, where teeth were inlaid with stones. Amesbury said it's possible the pre-latte inhabitants of Guam did something similar, but stressed there wasn't actu-

ally any connection between the Mayan example and the teeth found at Naton Beach.

The archaeologist also said a set of infant remains had ornaments. If researchers are correct that the ornaments are tied to status, the discovery of the infant would suggest that status in pre-latte Guam was inherited.

With regard to the burials dated to the latte period, only 17 of the 258 burials had ornaments, and Amesbury said the excavation had turned up eight burials with incised teeth.

She showed the audience a photograph of a skull on which

a "cross-hatch" design had been carved into the teeth. The incisions were found on eight sets of remains: four female, three male and one whose sex wasn't determined.

Overall, she said, the discovery was of great significance to researchers. The higher prevalence of ornaments among the pre-latte burials suggested status was actually more important than it was in the later period.

On top of that, the prevalence of female remains with ornaments compared to male remains suggested women were held in high regard, reinforcing the idea of matrilineage.



ETC CONTRIBUTION

Express Financial recently made an Education Tax Credit contribution to Mount Carmel School. School president Galvin Deleon Guerrero, third from left, stopped by Express Financial to receive the contribution from and express his appreciation to Express Financial area manager and MCS AlumKnight James B. Matsumoto, fourth from right. Also on hand to present the donation were fellow AlumKnights and parents of Knights who are part of the Express Financial team.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

ESFDB students excel in 'Aluf Luta' poster and essay contest

Students from Eskuelan San Francisco de Borja excelled in the recent "Aluf Luta (Rota Wave)" essay and poster contests.

"Their essays and posters clearly demonstrate the understanding these students have of the theme, 'Aluf Luta,'" said administrator/principal Carmen H. Atalig. "I am proud of their God given talents."

The winners from ESFDB are:

■ Marvin Clitar, 7th grade student, who won first place in the essay contest in the 6th to 8th grade division;

■ Titus Hocog (3rd grade), AJ Tobongbanua (3rd grade), and Perry Mesngon II (3rd grade), who took first, second, and third places respectively in the Kindergarten to 3rd grade division;

■ Autumn Hocog (4th grade), SonJoe Manuel (4th grade), and Éclair Ladao (4th grade), who took first, second,



"Aluf Luta" poster and essay contest winners from Eskuelan San Francisco de Borja.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

and third places in the 4th to 5th grade division.

Parents and students attended an awards ceremony for all the

winners and participants at the Teteto Beach during the Labor Day celebration on Sunday, Sept. 6.

The students were awarded cash prizes, incentives, and certificates for their participation. (ESFDB)

EOC keeping eye on tropical disturbance

The CNMI Emergency Operations Center, in coordination with the National Weather Service and Joint Typhoon Warning Center, are closely monitoring a tropical disturbance that has potential to affect the Northern Mariana Islands by midweek.

There are no watches or warnings in effect for the CNMI at this time.

As of 9:20am yesterday, Tropical Disturbance 96W was located about 405 miles east-southeast of Saipan. The tropical disturbance will move to the north or northwest over the next few days. Conditions are expected to deteriorate across the far Northern Mariana Islands on Wednesday, with increasing showers and thunderstorms

along with gusty winds and building seas.

The CNMI EOC, in conjunction with NWS and JTWC, will continue to monitor all conditions in our area and provide updates.

Although this tropical disturbance is no threat to the CNMI at this time, residents and visitors are advised to stay informed and monitor the progress of Tropical Disturbance 96W and listen for the latest statements and forecasts from the National Weather Service. Keep alert for any later statements from local officials or call the CNMI Emergency Operations Center at 670-237-8000 or on HF single side band radio at frequency 5.205.0. (HSEM)

PSS receives community-raised funds for elementary schools

By FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA
frauline_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Funds raised through the radio-thon organized under the KKMP Foundation were handed over to seven elementary schools of the Public School System last Saturday in time for their first day of classes yesterday.

The two-day radio-thon held Thursday and Friday last week raised a total pledge of \$53,728.37 from the community to be used for purchasing school supplies. More than \$37,000 was given in cash and checks and was entrusted to each of the schools' principals.

"No child should get left behind. We know what it's like because we all grew up poor. We know what it's like to go to school without a pencil or just a broken pencil you found lying on the street somewhere. And we are not going to let our kids go to school with broken pencils and no school supplies," KKMP's Gary Sword said.

The radio-thon was organized through Marianas High School Batch 1987 and was headed by Sword, Viola Alepuyo, Gordon Marciano, Alex Sablan, and Lillian Pangelinan.

"It's about the kids and the community giving back to the kids," Alepuyo said.

"Thank you for allowing KKMP to be part of this event. We're always here, ready and able and willing to work with the community, especially for our children," KKMP Foundation's Rose Sword said.

Lt. Gov. Ralph DLG Torres



FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA

The seven elementary schools under the Public School System were awarded a portion of the funds raised through the radio-thon organized by members of MHS Batch 87 under the KKMP Foundation.

was also present during the gathering at Paupau Beach.

"Every assistance to our recovery is a great cause and it does go a long way. Thank you," Torres said.

Torres added that they are pledging \$5,000 to the cause.

"On behalf of the Lieutenant Governor's Office and the

Governor, we have \$5,000 coming your way," he said.

The funds on hand were divided proportionally among the seven schools based on their enrollment. It will be up to the principals to determine who needs help in their schools.

The William S. Reyes Elementary School received \$6,243.30; Oleai Elementary

School received \$4,558.60; San Vicente Elementary School got \$6,273.03; Kagman Elementary School was given \$3,567.60; Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School was awarded \$3,131.56; Koblerville Elementary School obtained \$6,025.28; and Garapan El-

ementary School received the biggest check worth \$7,828.90.

Sword said they will be issuing more checks next week.

"I'm going to make a pledge here, that the money you have donated today will go to great use for the students to learn in their

classrooms and to do what is best also," Education Commissioner Dr. Rita Sablan said.

"On behalf of the children from the seven elementary schools that received the much needed funds, I want to thank all of you and all of the community of Saipan for coming out to give what they can," she added.

DYS sets public hearings on block grant, LIHEAP

The Department of Community & Cultural Affairs Division of Youth Services and the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program will be conducting a public hearing on the Social Services Block Grant and the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program state/model plans on the following dates/times.

■ Tinian: Sept. 15, 2015, 5pm to 6pm, Tinian Elementary School

■ Rota: Sept. 17, 2015, 6pm to 7pm, Sinapalo Youth Center

■ Saipan: Sept. 21, 2015, 6pm to 7pm, Koblerville Youth Center

The basic programs that would be implemented under the Social Services Block Grant Consolidation for the CNMI are based on achieving the following goals: self-support, self-sufficiency, protective services, preventing or reducing inappropriate institutional care and securing other forms of care.

The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program, more popularly known as LIHEAP, is a federally funded program designed to assist eligible low-income households in meeting home cooling needs. LIHEAP alleviates home energy burdens through the provision of energy assistance, energy education, home weatherization and intervention with energy providers on behalf of low-income households.

An electronic copy of the draft 2016 SSBG state plan may be viewed at <http://www.gov.mp/> or <http://www.dcca.com/>.

A copy of the state plan may also be picked up at the DYS Office of the Administrator on Capital Hill (located right across the Legislature). For more information, or to submit written comments, contact DYS grant writer Rita M. Castro or DYS administrator Vivian T. Sablan at 664-2550/2551. (DYS)

77 kids get backpack of school supplies from MLSC



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The Marianas Office of Micronesia Legal Services Corporation presents backpack with a set of standard supplies to schoolchildren on Saipan as part of its annual Back-to-School Project.

The Marianas Office of Micronesia Legal Services Corporation is wrapping up its annual Back-to-School Project. This year, it has so far given out 77 backpacks with school supplies.

"Every year we identify many needy kids and try to help them with our Back-to-School Project," said Marianas Office directing attorney Jane Mack. "This year, everyone is needy because of the destruction of Typhoon Soudelor."

While the project cannot reach everyone, MLSC and its partners are doing their part in the ongoing effort to address needs in the community.

The MLSC project provides an avenue for members of the legal community and others to provide school assistance. Donors give both in-kind donations and cash support, which provides the flexibility to build each backpack with a set of standard supplies.

This year's donors included

Mack, Thomas Clifford, Jim Cook, Kay Delafield, FHP Pharmacy, Kate Fuller, Christopher Heeb and Kyung Park, Brad Huesman and Deb Fisher, Juan T. Lizama, Bruce Mailman and Maya Kara, Richard Pierce, William Satterberg, Marcia K. Schultz, the Law Office of F. Matthew Smith (Mark Scoggins) and Robert T. Torres, with additional pledges from Lucia Blanco-Maratita and David Lochabay.

MLSC is a 501(c)(3) orga-

nization. Everything donated to the Back-to-School Project goes to the children; this is a complete pass-through program.

"Putting school supplies directly into the hands of children helps give them a sense of ownership and pride," said Mack. "Undoubtedly, the best part of the project is seeing the joy and enthusiasm when we give each child his or her own backpack with supplies." (MLSC)

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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AP The Associated Press

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EDITORIAL

Puerto Rico can't be expected to heal its own wounds

Puerto Rico has finally issued a plan to dig itself out from under \$72 billion of public debt—more than any state in the union except California and New York. It's a pretty good plan, too, except for one thing. The island's legislators can't be trusted to stick to it.

The Working Group for the Fiscal and Economic Recovery of Puerto Rico describes the scale of the problem. Even after calling for spending cuts and higher revenue, it predicts a \$13 billion funding shortfall over the next five years, with a cash crunch of \$500 million as soon as next June. And, it says, "available resources may be insufficient to service all principal and interest on debt that has a constitutional priority"—a dark hint that general-obligation bonds might have to be restructured, too.

Puerto Rico's bondholders, including hedge funds lured by high yields, want deeper cuts in spending. They're right, though caution is warranted: Too much austerity would make it harder for the economy, trapped in a prolonged recession, to recover. Without economic growth, Puerto Rico will be even less able to pay its debts.

Puerto Rico's unusual position as a U.S. territory presents fiscal problems of its own. One is emigration to the mainland, which is shrinking the population and the tax base. School enrollment is projected to drop an additional 25 percent by 2020. Yet, even now, the island has more schools and teachers than it needs. The report identifies savings in that part of the budget, as well as measures that include loosening overly restrictive labor laws, revamping the tax system, modernizing creaky public utilities and generally reducing the cost of doing business.

Some of these changes will require the assent of the federal government, such as exemptions on minimum wage and maritime coastal transport laws as well as changes in Medicaid reimbursement formulas. Others will rely on new local legislation.

Unfortunately, there's little in Puerto Rico's recent political past to suggest that it has the gumption to implement real reforms. Earlier this year, for instance, the legislature watered down an effort to fix Puerto Rico's tax system. A recent investigation found that more than 30 government agencies ignored a law that froze hiring and spending. The legislature is polarized, and will become even more so in an election year. Running battles over Puerto Rico's future status yield frivolous legislation on the official language, rather than needed economic reforms.

The Working Group's answer is to empower an independent control board appointed by the governor, with most members proposed by "independent third parties" including the federal government. Whether a partisan governor can appoint an independent board is questionable, however. The U.S. Congress and the federal government are being asked for a lot, including an extension of U.S. bankruptcy law to Puerto Rico; they should insist on a leading role on the board.

Would that trample Puerto Rico's constitution? No more than shredding the protections the island affords to general-obligation bondholders. An effective control board offers the best chance of a brighter future for Puerto Rico's 3.5 million U.S. citizens.

(c)2015 Bloomberg News



Penultimo Adios: A collegium on dying

A colleague in Washington State at 79 was diagnosed with a rare case of leukemia (CMML, or chronic myelomonocytic leukemia, for the curious) and was given two months to two years to battle the weak white blood cells. Norman Cousins the journalist took his imminent demise diagnosis with laughter for a decade.

We are familiar with Celine Dion's return to Las Vegas after a year of absence to care for her husband on the last leg of throat cancer. He is specific about his wanting to spend his last days with the Canadian chanteuse. Judy "Sock it to me" Carne of Rowan-and-Martin's *Laugh-In* drew the curtains down at 76, reminding me that I've come to the threshold of that region where many would rather forget they are heading that way, or fight its marks with the last drop of Pantene.

We came to the *Death knell of typhoons* not too long ago when swimming by the breach on the coral reef at Sugar Dock in Saipan. I found myself listlessly drifting to the open sea, unable to resist the ebb tide. Only the thought that I was 16 years ahead of any *mi ultima adios* that I had enough presence of mind to bodysurf to the reef, never mind what the dumping 4-foot waves did to our *heine* at the corals!

At 70, with the Sugar Dock experience, we might have been over-indulging in the subject of dying too much until our colleague from Washington sent out his *penultimo adios*, a collegium on the news of his leukemia.

The announcement itself was exemplary. He and his wife had made peace with the eventuality. "No one knows better than you and I how to celebrate both our being here and the completion of our journeys," he addressed a worldwide network of colleagues.

"I am taking this rare chance to express to all of you how much you've meant to me over the years—as the amazing collection of individual nobodies we are that rode out like the Man of La Mancha to throw our beings into the challenge of bending history." Well said of the collegial connection he was addressing that once called itself the "the company that cares."

Putting up a mirror, "you all contributed your own weird and special gifts, neuroses and idiosyncrasies to the makeup of our corporate life and community, all over the world," he declared his gratitude, with the wry humor that he'd abusively chat with some of us. "What else would you expect from me? And please—do return the favor," he added.

Then the clasp of the weathered hand: "... my heartfelt gratitude for your having been and continuing to be who you are and for that remarkable webbing and mission that connects us." I experienced a rush of early Daily Office memories as he concluded with the traditional passing of the peace, perfunctorily practiced by congregations but vividly reminiscent of 6am clasped hands going down

By **JAIME VERGARA**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinoypanda2031@aol.com.



the rows of chairs of the congregants of which we were a part. "The peace of God is yours this day," he intoned.

Without rites and rituals, we would not be human. While I moved away from beloved metaphors, the reality they point to remains the same. In the celebrative "being here" and the enigmatic "completion of a life's journey," the sense of compassion, the stance of gratitude, and the posture of profound humility abide.

This week, I moseyed over to Lino's place. For those unfamiliar with his little piece of real estate in San Isidro, Chalan Kanoa, the shoreline is built up with hotels, high-rises, including the abandoned Emmanuel College and the deserted Koreana in the south, and the Aquarius Tower toward the Sugar Dock in the north next to Town House fronting Mt. Carmel Cathedral and the CK cemetery. The area is, indeed, built up save "Uncle Lino's park."

The neighboring lot south has the sand regularly machine-raked, but there are hardly any bare footprints on the sand. In contrast, there are always folks at Uncle Lino's place and though barks of pine trees snapped and keeled over after Soudelor, the place remains a haven for children's gaiety, adults' guffaws, and newcomer's hilarity.

The broken masts and hobie cats have their place in the lot, including a huge double-hulled catamaran hauled from Guam to be repaired and refurbished to be tested on NMI waters first before it eventually sails south to the area between Yap and Chuuk along the navigational route I dubbed the Saipan-Satawal superhighway. Among these boats, which Lino, our Man of La Kanoa, sails to Mañagaha and back, we always find time to get the fire going to barbecue fish, seashell, pork, chicken, and beef.

We threw a party for visiting guests in honor of Uncle Lino. That's when we discovered his tummy was ill disposed; he visited the hospital earlier but CHC did not find anything wrong. Neither gloomy nor bleak, Lino understood too, not unlike my brief encounter at the coral stone breach, it was too premature to write the obit.

I dropped in on Lino the following day to check on how he was doing. He was sweeping the floor of his trailer. There clearly was one young man of 75 up and about.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Kim Davis is no martyr for religious liberty

I felt the need to watch “A Man for All Seasons” this weekend. I have four copies of it, three on DVD and one on Jurassic VHS, more a tribute to my forgetfulness than because I necessarily want my living room to look like a TV repair store. Every time I see it for sale, I buy it, only to find clones cluttering my video library. But if you’re going to have an overabundance of one particular movie, this is the one to have.

I pull it out whenever some high profile lawyer validates the low opinion so many people have of us, as when Gloria Allred acts as a mouthpiece for the Mistress of the Moment. (“Honestly, I had no idea he was going to drown the wife he complained to me about. ... Which side is better for the camera?”)

But this time, I wanted a reminder of what it really means to take a conscientious stand based on principle, and not on some twisted idea of civil disobedience.

Obviously, I’m referring to Kim Davis, the Apostolic Christian Democrat (Didn’t know she was a Dem? Shocking!) who still serves as clerk of court in Rowan County, Ky. Anyone not living under the Rock of Peter these past couple of weeks knows that Davis defied the Supreme Court decision legalizing gay marriage and refused to do her job. What was that job? Purely and simply, she was charged with issuing marriage licenses. The job description didn’t tell her to issue marriage licenses to the people who had passed her biblical muster. It didn’t require an anatomical examination before issuing those licenses. It just required her to stamp them, sign them and deliver them.

To the delight of evangelical Christians and the politicians who pander to them, Davis cited her religious beliefs in refusing to follow the law.

And the circus began.

Let me get this out of the way for those who’ve never read me in

the past. I’m as opposed to sane sex marriage as anyone could possibly be, with the possible exception of the Westboro Baptists. I find Anthony Kennedy’s shallow jurisprudential pandering to societal evolution to be shameful, embarrassing and a sign that Supreme Court justices ain’t what they used to be. Obergefell is a horrible, empty, political decision that has little or no relation to legitimate jurisprudence.

And it’s not just the lawyer in me that is angered by the decision. As a conservative Catholic, I strongly reject the idea that a sacrament can be hijacked by secular high priests of “tolerance.” You may say that marriage is a civil matter, but an awful lot of Americans who don’t drag their knuckles on the ground would disagree.

So I walk with Kim Davis—fully upright—on the underlying merits.

But just as much as I resent the fact that same-sex unions are now the law of the land, I respect that law and this land exponentially more than my personal vision of marriage.

So the deliberate flouting of the law by a woman who had other options is infuriating. It is exactly what Bruce Haines of Montgomery County, Pa., did when he issued marriage licenses to same sex couples when the law prohibited it. It is exactly that attitude of lawlessness that so many conservatives attributed to Barack Obama with his executive orders on immigration. It smacks of rank hypocrisy to attack liberals when they color outside of the lines but then forgive conservatives because we have a philosophical kinship with them.

What Kim Davis has done is to make it harder to convince those who disagree with us on underlying principles to at least respect our right to be given a perimeter of faith in which to operate, without encroachment.

That’s why I felt the need to watch “A Man for All Seasons.” Thomas More, patron saint of attorneys with a soul (no cracks, no

By **CHRISTINE M. FLOWERS**

Philadelphia Daily News

Christine M. Flowers is a lawyer and columnist for the Philadelphia Daily News. Readers may send her email at cflowers1961@gmail.com.



jokes, no sarcasm, please) did not invite his tragic destiny. When faced with taking a public vow that clashed with his private beliefs, he resigned his office as chancellor of England. He tried desperately to use the greatest tool of our trade—his clever mind—to avoid being trapped between public duty and personal integrity. It was only when he was forced by Henry VIII to take a vow recognizing the king as the head of the Church in England, thereby betraying our shared Roman Catholic faith, that he signed his own death warrant.

That is what is called sacrificing everything for your beliefs. The Kim Davises of the world parade their faith in front of us like some antidote to secular persecution, which is ridiculous. There is a place for God and a place for Caesar, and creating a false battle between the two is as much a sin as issuing licenses to same sex couples when your faith forbids it.

In fact, it’s much worse, because you are making devastating tears in that great and vibrant document that protects our right to believe in God and serve him without forcing Caesar to throw us in jail because of misguided and fabricated zeal.

Kim Davis is no Thomas More. And as he rises up, glorious in memory, so should she be forgotten and disowned by all Christians who cherish their faith and the freedom that makes it possible.

Our foreign policy of inaction has come at a very high price

There’s no way of knowing for certain to what degree U.S. foreign policy in the Middle East has led to the current refugee crisis in Europe.

Had the Obama administration’s support for the moderate Syrian opposition been robust and preemptive instead of delayed and weak, would Syria’s great cities remain populated, let alone still standing?

Had the president projected leadership and not retreated from his self-imposed “red line” on Bashar Assad’s use of chemical weapons, would Hungary’s razor-wire wall, meant to deter thousands of migrants from crossing its border, ever have been erected?

Had our political leaders been judicious enough to act when good interventionist options were still available instead of motivated by a politically expedient policy that embraced doing nothing, would more than 2,000 Syrians who drowned attempting to reach European shores this year still be alive?

We’ll never know.

But it’s impossible, in the wake of what some are calling the worst refugee crisis since World War II, to accept that the U.S. is somehow blameless in what has become a desperate and ugly reality.

Syria’s war has been raging for four years. More than a quarter-million Syrian civilians already have lost their lives in its crush.

Ancient cities of great historical and religious significance have been leveled.

Innocents have been intentionally targeted with barrel bombs and chemical weapons by an odious regime that has been surprisingly resilient, thanks to consistent support from Russia and Iran.

The prolonged chaos, coupled with President Barack Obama’s decision to leave no stabilizing ground force in neighboring Iraq,

The prolonged chaos, coupled with President Barack Obama’s decision to leave no stabilizing ground force in neighboring Iraq, gave space and purpose for the Islamic State to not merely grow but flourish.

gave space and purpose for the Islamic State to not merely grow but flourish.

Its rise has further destabilized a region that has never suffered from a lack of volatility; and it is increasingly attracting fighters from the West.

In the wake of unthinkable violence, reportedly close to half of Syria’s population has fled their homes, more than 4 million taking refuge in neighboring states that are struggling to support them.

Many other Gulf States have closed their borders; others offer little in the way of opportunity, and so a stream of bedraggled migrants, close to 400,000 so far this year, has made the frequently perilous and sometimes fatal journey to European shores.

European shores.

But the flow of people has not been easy to absorb.

Western nations, despite their wealth, are not necessarily equipped to deal with the immediate needs of so many refugees.

While some, like Germany, have made recent commitments to accept large migrant populations, others have been less receptive, and understandably so.

By **CYNTHIA M. ALLEN**

Fort Worth Star-Telegram

Cynthia M. Allen is a columnist for the Fort Worth Star-Telegram. Readers may send her email at cmallen@star-telegram.com.



There are the long-term consequences of mass immigration, as described by *New York Times* columnist Ross Douthat, to consider “the realities of culture, the challenges of assimilation, the dangers and inevitability of backlash.” Nations have a responsibility to their own citizens first.

The rise of anti-immigrant attitudes on the European continent, and to a lesser degree in the U.S., has been dramatic in recent years; cultures have clashed, and the current crisis is likely to exacerbate the sentiments that feed those movements.

In Europe, as in the U.S., there is a palpable and legitimate fear the Islamic State will be able to infiltrate the West through the radicalization of some of the disaffected Syrian refugees that suddenly find themselves adrift in a strange new country, or that Islamic State operatives are already part of the refugee wave.

Claims by some observers that the migration itself—hijrah, or jihadist emigration—is a tactic of the terrorist organization don’t seem so far-fetched when considering the scope of the problem and its projected impact.

But the crisis and all of its many rippling effects were entirely foreseeable—expected even.

When the tiny body of Aylan Kurdi washed up on a Turkish shore last week, America appeared stunned.

Perhaps that is attributable to what *Washington Post* editorial director Fred Hiatt called “the most surprising of President Obama’s foreign-policy legacies ... that he soothed the American people into feeling no responsibility for the tragedy.”

There is more the U.S. can and must do to aid those displaced by a conflict the West might have tempered with a long-term strategy for the Middle East.

And as we consider the consequences—many still to come—of the foreign-policy failures of the past two administrations, we may come to realize the costs of doing nothing are often just as grave as attempting to do too much.




MICHAEL OSBURN

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian


TODAY



Partly sunny with isolated showers and thunderstorms.
West winds 5 to 10 mph.

▲87° ▼77°


WEDNESDAY



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
West winds 5 to 15 mph.

▲88° ▼77°


THURSDAY



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲88° ▼77°


FRIDAY



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲88° ▼77°

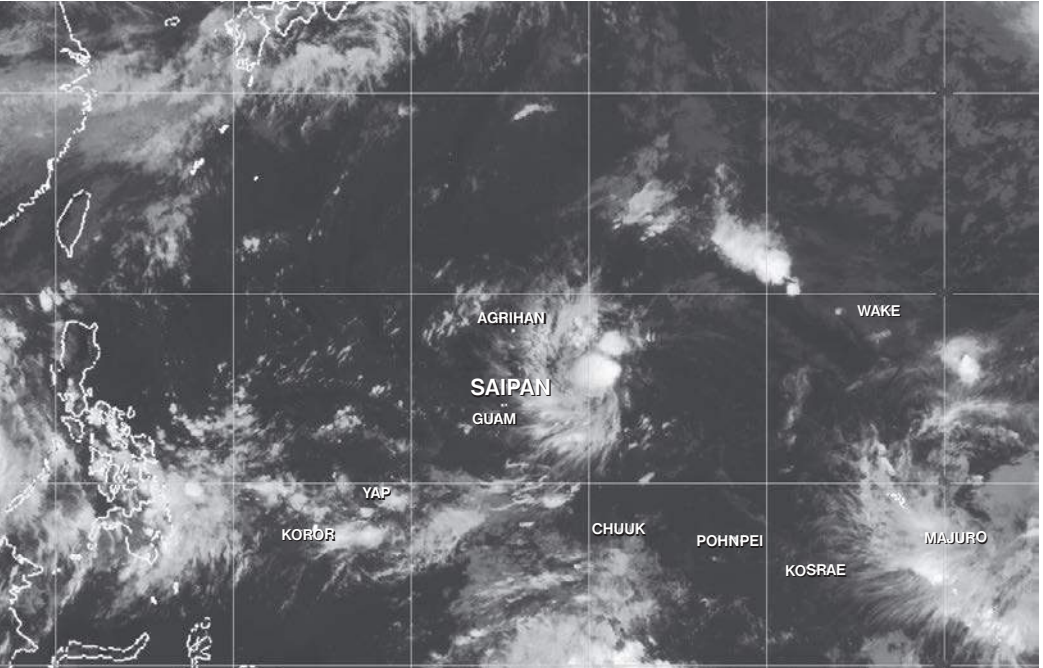
SATURDAY



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲88° ▼77°

Yesterday's Satellite Image




PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2015

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A tropical disturbance about 400 miles east of Saipan centered near 14N152E is now the subject of a tropical cyclone formation alert. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are between 11N and 18N from 147E to 152E. For more information on this disturbance refer to bulletins issued by the Joint Typhoon Warning center under WMO header WTPN21 PGTW. A weak circulation is northwest of Yap near 11N137E with convergent southwest winds across Yap and Koror. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are between 5N and 10N from 130E to 145E. Convergent southwest winds are also causing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms south of Chuuk within 150 miles of a line from 5N154E to EQ149E. Surging monsoon westerly winds are producing scattered to numerous showers and isolated thunderstorms over the Marshall Islands within 200 miles of a line from near Kwajalein at 9N168E to east of Tarawa at 1N176E. An old frontal boundary stretches across Wake Island from 24N152E to 24N157E to 16N172E. Patchy areas of rain with a few thunderstorms are within 75 miles of the boundary.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia			
Guam And Rota	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼78
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼80
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲85	▼79
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼79
Pohnpei	Mostly Sunny	▲87	▼78
Kosrae	Partly Cloudy	▲86	▼79
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲84	▼80
Around the Globe			
Auckland	Cloudy	▲85	▼51
Beijing	Sunny	▲80	▼57
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	▲89	▼78
Honolulu	Windy	▲87	▼76
London	Showers	▲65	▼51
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲83	▼69
Manila	Thundershowers	▲89	▼74
Melbourne	Showers	▲60	▼46
Miami	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼78
New York	Sunny	▲84	▼66
Osaka	Mostly Cloudy	▲83	▼69
Paris	Mostly Cloudy	▲67	▼59
Pusan	Windy	▲75	▼64
Rome	Partly Cloudy	▲84	▼73
Salem	Cloudy	▲67	▼47
San Francisco	Cloudy	▲67	▼56
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲84	▼57
Tokyo	Mostly Cloudy	▲77	▼65
Washington, DC	Sunny	▲85	▼61



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Tides			
Saipan Harbor			
3:53 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.5 Feet
9:39 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
4:05 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.5 Feet
9:54 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
Sunrise/Sunset			
Today	6:06 AM	6:20 PM	
Wednesday	6:06 AM	6:19 PM	
Thursday	6:06 AM	6:18 PM	
Friday	6:06 AM	6:17 PM	
Saturday	6:06 AM	6:17 PM	
Moonrise/Moonset			
Today	7:22 AM	7:34 PM	
Wednesday	8:08 AM	8:13 PM	
Thursday	8:56 AM	8:53 PM	
Friday	9:44 AM	9:36 PM	
Saturday	10:34 AM	10:21 PM	

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JULY 2, 2015											
DEPARTURES						ARRIVALS					
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)						GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN					
UA5070	4:15am	5:05am	Daily			UA5069	2:45am	3:35am	Daily		
UA5068	8:00am	8:50am	3			UA5071	6:40am	7:30am	3		
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7			UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7		
UA5039	2:20pm	4:00pm	6, 7 via Rota			UA5039	1:00pm	1:50pm	6, 7		
UA5078	3:10pm	4:00pm	1, 5			UA5038	1:00pm	2:35pm	2, 4 via Rota		
UA5038	3:10pm	4:00pm	2, 4			UA5077	1:50pm	2:40pm	1, 5		
UA5040	6:55pm	7:45pm	1, 5			UA5041	5:35pm	6:25pm	1, 5		
UA5078	8:35pm	9:25pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7			UA5077	7:15pm	8:05pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7		
UA5044	10:40pm	11:30pm	1, 5			UA5043	9:20pm	10:10pm	1, 5		
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)						GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)					
UA5039	2:20pm	2:55pm	6, 7			UA5038	1:00pm	1:35pm	2, 4		
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)						ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN					
UA5039	3:25pm	4:00pm	6, 7			UA5038	2:05pm	2:40pm	2, 4		
SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR)						PALAU (ROR)-SAIPAN					
DL287	6:05am	1:05am+1	2, 6 via NRT			DL298	4:30am	2:55pm	3, 7 via NRT		
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)						NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN					
DL287	6:05am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 6			DL298	10:25am	2:55pm	Daily		
DL297	4:30pm	7:15pm	Daily			DL288	8:55pm	1:25am+1	3, 4, 5, 7		
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)						SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN					
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1			7C3402	8:45am	2:15pm	3, 5, 6		
OZ6063	2:25am	6:00am	3, 4, 6			7C3402	9:30am	3:20pm	1, 2, 4, 7		
OZ626	3:20am	7:00am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7			OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7		
7C3403	4:35am	8:20am	1, 2, 3, 6, 7			OZ6053	7:55pm	1:25am+1	2, 3, 5, 6		
7C3403	5:25am	9:10am	4, 5			OZ625	8:20pm	1:50am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6		
7C3401	3:15pm	7:35pm	3, 5, 6			7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily		
7C3401	4:20pm	8:05pm	1, 2, 4, 7								
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)						BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN					
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7			OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6		
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)						SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN					
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7			3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7		
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)						BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN					
MU764	1:30am	5:30am	3, 5, 7			MU763	4:30pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6		
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)						GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN					
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6			3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5		
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)						MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN					
OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN			DL276/288	9:30am	1:25am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7 via NRT		
OZ6063/701	2:25am	11:05am	3, 4, 6 via ICN			UA190/5077	9:55am	8:05pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM		
OZ626/701	3:20am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN			OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN		
UA5070/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM			OZ702/6053	12:15pm	1:25am+1	2, 3, 5, 6 via ICN		
UA5070/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	Daily via GUM			OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN		
UA5070/183	4:15am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM			PR110/UA5071	10:05pm	7:30am+1	3 via GUM		
UA5070/183	4:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM			PR110/UA5071	10:05pm	8:05am+1	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 via GUM		
DL287/275	6:05am	9:40pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 6 via NRT			UA184/5071	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM		
UA5068/183	8:00am	9:10pm	3 via GUM			UA184/5039	10:25pm	1:50pm+1	6 via GUM		
UA5068/183	8:40am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM			UA184/5038	10:25pm	2:40pm+1	1, 3 via GUM-Rota		
UA5068/183	8:40am	9:10pm	1, 4, 6, 7 via GUM			UA184/5077	10:25pm	2:40pm+1	4, 7 via GUM		
UA5039/183	2:20pm	9:10pm	6, 7 via Rota-GUM			UA184/5041	10:25pm	6:25pm+1	4, 7 via GUM		
UA5038/183	3:10pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM			UA184/5077	10:25pm	8:05pm+1	1, 3, 6 via GUM		
UA5078/183	3:10pm	8:50pm	5 via GUM			UA184/5043	10:25pm	10:10pm+1	4, 7 via GUM		
UA5078/183	3:10pm	9:10pm	1 via GUM			UA184/5071	11:30pm	7:30am+1	2 via GUM		
UA5038/183	3:10pm	9:10pm	4 via GUM			UA184/5071	11:30pm	8:05am+1	5 via GUM		
						UA184/5071	11:30pm	1:50pm+1	5 via GUM		
						UA184/5077	11:30pm	8:05pm+1	2, 5 via GUM		
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)						HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN					
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1			OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN		
OZ6063	2:25am	6:00am	3, 4, 6			OZ722/6053	1:10pm	1:25am+1	2, 3, 5, 6 via ICN		
OZ626	3:20am	7:00am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7			OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:50am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN		
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN			UA180/5071	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM		
OZ6063/721	2:25am	11:50am	3, 4, 6 via ICN			UA180/5039	9:55pm	8:05am+1	5 via GUM		
OZ626/721	3:20am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN			UA180/5077	9:55pm	2:35pm+1	1, 3 via GUM-Rota		

Nation

Northern California wildfires wipe out more than 180 homes

MIDDLETOWN, Calif. (AP)—Two of California’s fastest-burning wildfires in decades overtook several Northern California towns, destroying more than 180 homes and sending residents fleeing Sunday on highways lined with buildings, guardrails and cars still in flames.

At least 100 homes were destroyed by a wildfire north of San Francisco in Lake County

that raced through dry brush and exploded in size within hours, officials said. The devastation comes after a separate wildfire to the southeast destroyed at least 81 homes.

Residents fled from Middletown, dodging smoldering telephone poles, downed power lines and fallen trees as they drove through billowing smoke.

Whole blocks of houses were burned in parts of the town of

more than 1,000 residents that lies about 20 miles north of the famed Napa Valley. On the west side of town, house after house was burned to their foundations, with only charred appliances and twisted metal garage doors still recognizable.

Firefighters on Sunday afternoon could be seen driving around flaming utility poles to put out spot fires. Homeowner Justin Galvin, 33, himself a



A sign hangs above an entryway to a home destroyed by fire Sunday, Sept. 13, 2015, in Middletown, Calif.

bers raining down on homes and made it hard for firefighters to stop the Lake County blaze from advancing, California Department of Forest Protection spokesman Daniel Berlant said.

Four firefighters who are members of a helicopter crew suffered second-degree burns during the initial attack on the fire Saturday afternoon. They remained hospitalized in stable condition Sunday, Berlant said.

ACROSS THE NATION

School districts see teacher shortages after years of cuts

LOS ANGELES (AP)—When a new school year began at the Sierra Sands Unified district 150 miles north of Los Angeles in August, students in four classes were greeted by a substitute. The small district’s human resources department had worked aggressively through the summer to attract new teachers. Staff members made out-of-state recruiting trips, highlighting their area’s low cost of living and proximity to Los Angeles. The district revamped its website and asked residents to tap their families and friends for job candidates. “We were leav-

ing no stone unturned,” said Dave Ostash, assistant superintendent of human resources of the 5,000-student district. Still, when the bell rang on the first day of class, they fell four teachers short.

3 arrested in copycat incidents of Phoenix freeway shootings

PHOENIX (AP)—Three teenagers were arrested Sunday for allegedly shooting at cars with a slingshot, but the incidents were not related to a recent string of Phoenix-area freeway shootings, authorities said. Three men, all age 18, were in jail after admitting to flinging rocks at pedestrians and vehicles, Maricopa County

Sheriff Joe Arpaio said. Arpaio also told reporters Sunday that a couple whose car window was shattered Saturday east of Phoenix noted a license plate number of a vehicle that allegedly pulled up alongside them. Deputies and the state Department of Public Safety located the vehicle. DPS Director Frank Milstead said the incidents are copycats and there was nothing linking them to any of the 11 incidents his agency has been investigating. Aaron Nottingham, Albert German and Christian Cook were booked on charges of assault, endangerment and criminal damage. The agency also detained a 18-year-old man Friday for questioning in the shootings.

firefighter, stood alone at his house, poking its shin-high, smoking ruins with a piece of scrap metal.

“This is my home. Or it was,”

said Galvin, who spent all night fighting another massive fire in the Sierra Nevada foothills.

Wind gusts that reached up to 30 miles per hour sent em-

Kentucky clerk case divides religious liberty advocates

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—Kentucky clerk Kim Davis has become a hero to many conservative Christians who see her refusal to issue marriage licenses after the Supreme Court effectively legalized same-sex marriage as a litmus test for religious liberty in an increasingly secular culture.

But lost in the uproar are the voices of Christians, some equally conservative, who disagree with Davis’ stance and

worry that holding her out as a martyr will ultimately hurt the cause of religious liberty.

“I think she’s wrong on the merits, wrong theologically and her stance is harmful to Christians both in the religious liberty debate and in trying to present Christianity to the watching world,” said Peter Wehner, a Christian commentator who served in the last three Republican presidential administrations.

Many religious conserva-

tives have shifted their focus in recent years from trying to stop the legalization of same-sex marriage to carving out protections for those who object to it on religious grounds. A Washington florist who was fined over her refusal to provide flowers for a same-sex wedding is celebrated by conservative Christian leaders across the U.S. who point to her story as an example of government overreach they fear will only grow.

In Loving Memory of

ISMIKE TWELBANG MAGOFNA

Lovingly known as “Spanky”

Born to Life on March 07, 1972 and was called to his Eternal Life on September 09, 2015

In his new life, he joins his:

Father: Miguel Blas Magofña
Sister: Betty Twelbang
Brothers-In-Law: Julian Rios Camacho, Joe Jr. Gogue Charfauros

He is survived by his:

Son: Jayce Likeke Mullican
Mother: Angeles Twelbang Magofña
Brothers, Sisters, & In-Laws:
Thomasa M. & Allan Bennette, Children & Grandchildren
Carmen M. & Pedro Raquel, Children & Grandchildren
Vicente Igibara Magofña & Children
Jesusa M. & Alfredo Pua, Children & Grandchildren
Olympio I. & Merced A. Magofña, Children & Grandchildren
Olympia M. & Joaquin Borja, Children & Grandchildren
Claudio I. & Marissa Magofña, Children & Grandchildren
Claudia I. Magofña & Children
Allegre “Bob” T. & Delia S. Magofña & Children
Bettina M. & George McClinton
Blas T. & Krilyn D. Magofña, Children & Grandchildren
Emmy M. & Mariano Rios, Children & Grandchild
Salvadora Pangelinan & David Bundy & Children
Brilliant T. Magofña & Rickres Kalen & Children
Jesse T. Magofña
Greg T. & Yan Che Magofña & Children
Estellita M. & †Joe Jr. G. Charfauros & Children
Pina Magofña Deleon Guerrero (Jesse) & Children
Mariana M. & Darrell Tomokane & Children
Miguel T. Magofña & Heidi Garde & Children
Chosen Brother: Clifford Nekai (Loling Camacho)

He is additionally survived by numerous aunts & uncles, cousins, nieces & nephews, godchildren, and countless, amazing friends.

Mass Services for our dearly beloved is being offered daily on Monday, Wednesday, Friday, & Saturday at 5:30pm and Sunday at 8:00am at Santa Remedios. Tuesday & Thursday at 5:30pm at San Roque.

On Thursday, September 17, 2015 our dearly beloved will depart the CHC Morgue at 7:30 am, and will be brought to Santa Remedios Church in Tanapag. Public viewing will follow the Responso and Holy Rosary. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11am followed by internment services and the Tanapag Cemetery.

Si Yu’us Ma’ase
Angeles T. Magofña & Family

In Celebration of His New Life

†Arthur B. Maturingan

Lovingly known as “Paula” or “Pia”

April 9, 1973 – August 31, 2015

In his new life, he now joins his parents:

†Domingo B. Maturingan
†Arsenia M. Binaohan

His memories will forever live in the hearts of his:

Brothers: Arnel B. Abud
Ariel B. Maturingan

He will also be missed by his numerous aunts, uncles, nephews, nieces, sister-in-law and other relatives and friends.

Public viewing will be on Wednesday, September 16, 2015 from 11:00am to 1:00pm at the CHC Chapel.

His remains will be sent home to the Philippines on Thursday, September 17, 2015. Mass and Interment will be held at Mercedes, Camarines Norte, Philippines, where he will be laid to peaceful rest.

Our family is eternally grateful for all the kind words, condolences, act of kindness and prayers.

Roly & Des Calayo and Family

World

Germany implements temporary border checks to limit migrants

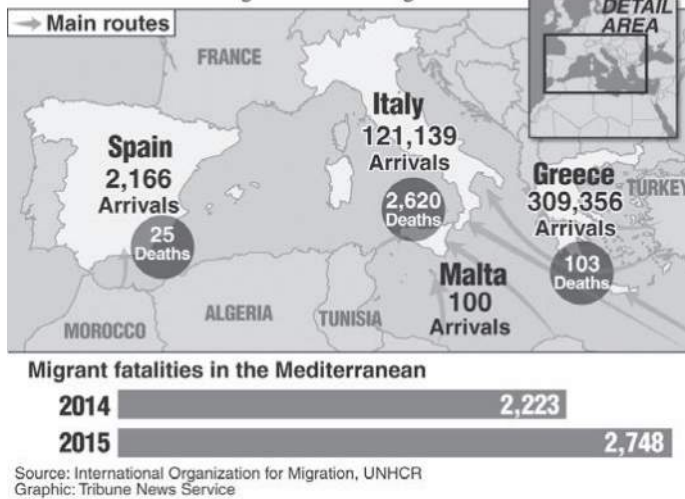
BERLIN (AP)—Germany introduced temporary border controls Sunday to stem the tide of thousands of refugees streaming across its frontier, sending a clear message to its European partners that it needs more help with an influx that is straining its ability to cope.

Germany is a preferred destination for many people fleeing Syria's civil war and other troubled nations in the migration crisis that has bitterly divided Europe. They have braved dangerous sea crossings in flimsy boats—another 34 drowned Sunday off Greece—and made long treks across unwelcoming countries in hopes of a better life.

More than a week ago, Germany and Austria agreed to let in migrants who had massed in Hungary, saying it was a one-time measure to ease an emergency. The flow has continued

Mediterranean migrants

Spain, Italy and Greece received more than 420,000 migrants by maritime arrival, as of Sept. 10, according to the International Organization for Migration



undiminished, and while Germans have remained welcoming, officials said the numbers were straining the country's

ability to provide accommodations.

Berlin has become increasingly frustrated with the reluc-

tance of many other countries in the 28-nation European Union—especially those in the former Eastern bloc—to share the burden of hosting the newcomers. Sunday's action, focusing on the Austrian border, came a day before a meeting of EU interior ministers to discuss the crisis.

"The aim of this measure is to limit the current influx to Germany and to return to orderly entry procedures," Interior Minister Thomas de Maiziere told reporters. "This is also urgently necessary for security reasons."

De Maiziere added: "The great readiness to help that Germany has shown in recent weeks ... must not be overstretched."

He did not specify how long the border controls would remain in place or how exactly incoming migrants would be handled, saying only that Ger-

many will continue to observe national and European rules on protecting refugees.

German officials didn't have further details, but in principle, border checks allow officials to turn back anyone lacking valid papers to enter.

The move, de Maiziere said, was also "a signal to Europe: Germany is facing up to its humanitarian responsibility, but the burdens connected with the large number of refugees must be distributed in solidarity within Europe."

WORLD BRIEFS

Okinawa leader threatens to revoke approval to move base

TOKYO (AP)—Okinawa's governor says he is preparing to revoke approval for work needed to relocate a U.S. air base from one area of the southern Japanese island to another. Local residents are upset at having to live with U.S. Marine Air Station Futenma, and there are plans to move it to a less developed area on Okinawa. Gov. Takeshi Onaga, elected last year on promises to fight the move, said Monday that approval given in 2013 by his predecessor for landfill work has "legal defects" and he has begun the process to cancel it. Okinawa houses more than half of the 50,000 U.S. troops stationed in Japan. Locals want the base moved off the island. Construction has resumed on the landfill work after a monthlong break while fruitless talks were held.

At least 12 killed when Egyptian forces fire on Mexican tour

MEXICO CITY (AP)—At least 12 people were killed and 10 injured in Egypt's southwestern desert Sunday when armed forces mistakenly fired on a group of Mexican tourists, Egyptian officials said. The Mexican Foreign Ministry confirmed the incident and said

at least two of the dead were Mexican nationals. It said in a statement that the victims were still being identified, and Foreign Ministry personnel were working with the families of the victims. The Egyptian ministry said that police and armed forces were pursuing terrorist elements in the area and fired on four cars that turned out to be carrying tourists. The ministry said the victims were Mexican and Egyptian.

Volcano in southern Japan erupts, sending smoke into the air

TOKYO (AP)—Mount Aso, a volcano on the southern Japanese island of Kyushu, has erupted, sending huge plumes of black and then white smoke 2,000 meters (6,560 feet) into the air. The eruption Monday prompted authorities to raise the alert level for the area, banning people from approaching within 2 kilometers (1.25 miles) of the volcano's mouth. There are no homes within that area and there were no immediate reports of injuries or damage. The national television network NHK cited local police as saying they had safety evacuated people from a ropeway station on the mountain and were having other visitors move to lower elevations. Police were still checking to see if any hikers were in the restricted area.

Pilgrims traumatized, asking how Mecca crane could collapse

MECCA, Saudi Arabia (AP)—Jumaa Ibrahim and his wife Hasnaa Karam, a Syrian couple in their early 60s, arrived in Mecca on Friday, and headed straight to Islam's holiest site, the cube-shaped Kaaba.

It had begun to rain in the ancient desert city. Karam, who had waited a lifetime to make the pilgrimage to stand before the Kaaba, stood with her palms facing toward the sky in prayer. Ibrahim stood a few feet to her side, quietly reading verses from the Quran.

Suddenly, a loud boom echoed. Karam found herself surrounded by carnage—body parts were scattered everywhere amid pools of blood on the white marble floor of the mosque.

The kingdom's Civil Defense says unusually strong winds tipped over one of the mas-

sive cranes around the Grand Mosque that houses the Kaaba. The crane crashed through part of the mosque's roof and upper floors, sending concrete slabs crashing down.

"I saw a head, legs, blood, dead people," Karam said Sunday, interviewed at her husband's bedside in Mecca's Al-Noor Specialist Hospital. "We started saying 'Allahu Akbar, Allahu Akbar, Allahu Akbar' as the rain poured down."

She escaped injury, but her husband was among the hundreds injured, his leg broken in two parts. The death toll reached 111 on Sunday as more of the injured died. The Health Ministry on Sunday said 394 people were treated at

medical facilities after the crane collapse, and 158 of the injured remain hospitalized.

Ayman Shaaban, the owner of a hajj tour company in Egypt, was praying on the ground floor of the Grand Mosque when the crane collapsed. He says he was tossed some 20 meters (66 feet). He was immediately rushed into

a large room with other injured people, the right side of his face broken, bloodied and swollen, unable to open his left eye.

Saudi media reported that a committee has been established to investigate the incident. It is unclear how the kingdom's Civil Defense, which led rescue operations, was able to determine that winds caused the crane's collapse. The spokesman for Civil Defense could not be immediately reached for comment.

Shaaban has questions about the cause of the accident.

"Logically speaking, for a crane to fall from wind, even if there were strong winds, something doesn't add up," Shaaban said from his hospital bed. "If there is negligence, because of these souls lost, someone must be held accountable."



Distant husband gives no support to pregnant wife

DEAR ABBY: I'm a few months pregnant and married to a man I love with all my heart. We have a young son together. For the last couple of months, I have had severe morning sickness, and my husband seems to resent me for it. He complains that I "don't do anything anymore," but I have been so ill that some days it's all I can do to get to work in the morning. I try to help out as much as I can, but it doesn't seem to be enough.

Lately he has shown no interest in me or the pregnancy. He won't go with me to doctors' appointments, no longer asks me about them, and refuses even to discuss possible names for our new baby. I have been to the emergency room twice—once for dehydration and another time for a car accident. He showed up only after I begged him to come because I was scared. When my mom showed up, he couldn't get out of there fast enough.

He has been very secretive with his phone lately and has been working longer and later hours than usual. I don't know what to do. I'm scared that he doesn't want me anymore. Am I being a hormonal, paranoid wreck, or is something bad going on here?

EMOTIONAL MESS IN OHIO

DEAR EMOTIONAL MESS: You need to confront your husband with that question. His behavior is the opposite of supportive. Whether it is because he is immature or because

he is seeing someone else is anybody's guess. But a change of behavior this drastic on so many levels is certainly cause for concern—and pretending you don't notice won't fix whatever is going on.

DEAR ABBY: My wife has children and two grandchildren from a previous marriage. Her granddaughter, "Jasmine," is 19. We were never close to her or her mother, but we tried to heal old wounds a few years ago.

Once Jasmine turned 17 she started getting tattoos. She now has them all over her body—thighs, chest, stomach. She has a full sleeve on one arm and a half-sleeve on the other. She has piercings in her ear lobes and has pierced her nipples.

At this point, I don't want her in my house and neither does my wife. I don't want to be seen with her in public, and because her mother allowed her to do this, I would rather cut all ties with them. My wife agrees. I don't see us changing our minds. Your opinion, Abby?

GROUCHY TEXAN

DEAR TEXAN: I am glad you asked, because it appears you and your wife have forgotten that underneath those tattoos and piercings is a GRANDCHILD. I understand her body "art" may be off-putting, but I'm disappointed

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



that nowhere in your letter did you express what kind of person Jasmine is.

I'm sure that like most people, she has more to offer than what's on the surface. She may be a sensitive, loving, caring, talented and intelligent individual who would love a relationship with you and her grandmother, and be deeply hurt by the sentiments you have expressed. That said, unless you can look deeper and get to know and love Jasmine for the person she is, it would be better for her to avoid such shallow individuals as the two of you.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

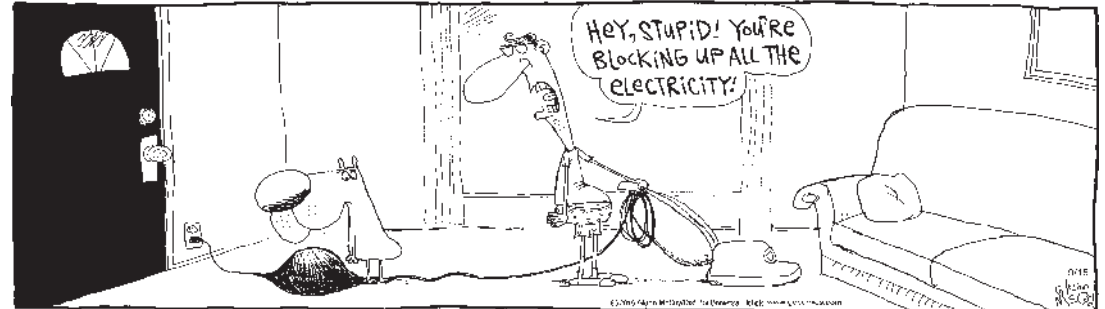


Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 In the thick of
5 "NCIS" network
8 Mafia boss
12 Unadorned
13 Exist
14 Sahara-like
15 Physical
16 News-item info
18 Air out, as laundry
20 Accumulate
21 Sailor's assent
22 Put to work
23 Wood-shaving tool
26 Tests
30 A billion years
31 Scale member
32 Adversary
33 Exhausts
36 Stood
38 Possess
39 Wildebeest

DOWN

40 Quickly
43 Region of Australia
47 Make retro-active
49 Sad
50 Lo-cal
51 That guy's
52 Get a glimpse of
53 Formerly, formerly
54 Fool
55 Colonial seamstress
1 Cain's victim
2 Long skirt
3 Ahmadijad's land
4 Abase group
5 Core
6 Talk like
54 Across
7 Harden
8 Less nervous
9 Met melody
10 Cushion inserts
11 Honorific verses
17 Relaxed
19 Prepare Easter eggs
22 Internet address
23 Apiece
24 "Skip to My —"
25 Massachusetts cape
26 Speck
27 E.T.'s transport?
28 Ph. bk. data
29 Witness
31 Baltimore newspaper
34 Hole in the wall?
35 As yet unpaid
36 Pismire
37 Goodyear product
39 Surmise
40 Competent
41 Poker holding
42 Book after the Gospels
43 Elevator name
44 As well
45 Drink holders
46 Harpsichord lineup
48 "Eureka!"

Solution time: 22 mins.

M	O	D	E	R	F	D	A	D	A	M
A	K	I	N	E	A	R	S	A	L	E
L	A	M	B	E	X	A	C	T	I	O
E	Y	E	L	I	D	T	O	R	Q	U
O	O	P	S	Y	O	J				
E	J	E	C	T	I	O	N	S	I	G
M	O	I	A	P	L	U	S	R	O	E
S	Y	N	C	E	V	I	C	T	I	O
S	I	P	E	S	A					
S	A	T	R	A	P	A	M	T	R	A
E	L	E	C	T	I	O	N	O	J	S
G	A	I	L	T	I	C	R	I	A	L
A	R	N	E	A	L	E	S	V	A	P

Yesterday's answer 9-15

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Prince Harry, 31; Tom Hardy, 38; Tommy Lee Jones, 69; Oliver Stone, 69.

Happy Birthday: Don't let responsibilities limit you. Concentrate on meeting your expectations so that you can move on to the things that will bring you happiness. You should make adjustments to your life this year that will help you eliminate the clutter and nonsense that has occupied so much of your time in the past. Strive for personal freedom. Your numbers are 7, 15, 22, 29, 32, 35, 49.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Live, love and participate. The more adventure-some you are, the more you will gain. Share your thoughts and feelings with someone you think is special and you will get feedback as well as the help you need to turn your dream into a reality. ★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Protect your position by offering to take on more responsibility. The effort you make will bring you the biggest return. A day trip, sending out your resume or going in for an interview is favored. Assess your situation and make changes. ★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Someone will ask for proof or detailed facts and figures. Simple and easy-to-follow instructions will help you get the assistance you need. There are gains to be made, but only if you deliver what you promise. ★★★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Follow your instincts. Someone with more experience than you will offer advice. Don't

hesitate to change your direction or your position if it helps you emotionally, mentally or financially. Improve your appearance and you will boost your confidence. ★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Strut your stuff. Engage in talks and you will dazzle everyone with your knowledge and insight. A business trip or visiting someone you'd like to work with is favored. Schedule a romantic evening to improve your personal life. ★★★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Tidy up unfinished business. Put your efforts into getting ahead. Embrace a challenge and give it your best shot. Your determination and insightful approach to problems will draw positive attention. A secret offer will tempt you. ★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You will learn from the interactions you have with others. Reconnect with someone from your past who is working in a field that interests you. If an opportunity is offered, take the initiative and move forward without looking back. ★★★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Someone will keep you in the dark regarding information you need in order to make an important decision. Sniff out any hidden agenda or motive and you will be in a better position to negotiate and take control. ★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Personal changes, pleasure trips and engaging in banter with someone you find interesting and informative will make your day. Don't let your competitive nature tempt you to embellish, exaggerate or overspend in order to

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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make an impression. Keep indulgence to a minimum. ★★

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Avoid trouble by harboring your opinions when you're better off focusing on potential deals and tying up loose ends. Don't let your emotions cause you to engage in a discussion that is likely to end in a stalemate. ★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Look at the big picture and analyze what's required in order to get what you want. Step up and participate using your sharp mind and your skills in a unique manner. Love is favored, so put time aside for romance. ★★★★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Your unusual way of doing things will confuse the people around you. Offer an easy-to-follow overview of what you are doing in order to avoid opposition and setbacks. Be open to reasonable suggestions from others. ★★★

Birthday Baby: You are intelligent, charming and passionate. You are competitive and persistent. Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on [twitter/facebook/linkedin](https://twitter.com/eugenialast).

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

8	2		4				6
				9		1	2
	5	1				4	
							1
	3		8	5		2	
7							
		3			2	8	
9		6		5			
1				3		5	4

Difficulty Level ★★

9/15

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Friday's SUDOKU Answer

9	3	4	5	8	1	2	7	6
8	1	5	7	2	6	3	4	9
7	6	2	9	4	3	5	1	8
3	7	8	6	5	9	1	2	4
5	4	6	2	1	7	9	8	3
2	9	1	8	3	4	6	5	7
1	8	3	4	6	2	7	9	5
6	5	9	1	7	8	4	3	2
4	2	7	3	9	5	8	6	1

Difficulty Level ★

11/11

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

DOVE SOAP

Solution: 8 letters

E M S U P O M E G R A N A T E
C O Y S P I S T A C H I O T S
N U O A E C E V I T I S N E S
A S C P R N I R A D N A M T E
L S A U M P E M A E R C O I N
A E B N M A S L F I O N I H T
B D S I E B H R P O E F S W I
E E E K I B E S L P B R T L A
R T R S A E R R L B U E U J L
R N U L S E E E E E C S R A S
I E M I P T L A V S M H E S A
N C A I T T U I H A T O E M K
S S T U N T V E O V E O N I U
E N B E Y E A F A C E R R N R
A U G P R O T E C T I O N E A

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9/15

Antiperspirant, Balm, Beauty, Butter, Cool, Cream, Cube, Cucumber, Essentials, Face, Foam, Freesia, Fresh, Gentle, Jasmine, Lemon, Mandarin, Moisture, Mousse, Pistachio, Pomegranate, Protection, Rebalance, Restore, Revive, Rinse, Sakura, Scrub, Sensitive, Serum, Shampoo, Shea, Skin, Spray, Suppleness, Unscented, Verbena, White. Yesterday's Answer: Les Miserables

To purchase THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volume 35, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42 or 43, order on line at www.WonderWordBooks.com. (Contains 43 puzzles.)

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5951! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

Job Vacancy Announcement
(1) **Electronic Technician** – 5 yrs experience - \$6.05/hr.
Must be certified/licensed air-conditioning technician.
Knowledgeable in satellite TV System, CCTV camera, alarm system, entertainment equipment & other electronics equipment – installation and service repair. Interested applicant must contact and submit resume to
Langiang L. Barcinas dba Ally Electronics.
P.O. Box 503534 CK Saipan, MP 96950
Tel. # 287-9968/email-langiangl@hotmail.com

New Wave Dental
Job Announcement
Dental Assistant
3 years minimum of clinical experience. Must be able to submit and track insurance claims Or be able to do lab work for prosthetics. Must have excellent computer and phone skills. Must be outgoing and professional.
Drop resume with photo to our clinic, located in Micro Beach Road or call 233-3300.

SECTION 8 VOUCHER ACCEPTED



IRONWOOD
PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

NEW 2, 3, and 4 bedroom energy efficient apartments opening soon in Saipan. For pictures, amenities, and application information join our contact list at **www.ironwoodhousing.com**

HEALTH PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION
Job Vacancy Announcement

Registered Nurse (01)

- Must pass NCLEX with current CNMI RN license
- Must hold a degree of Bachelor of Science in Nursing
- At least two to five year's experience
- English language skills - proficient in spoken, written and comprehension
- Certification in Basic Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation

Front Office Manager (01)

- At least with over six year's experience in medical billing, electronic health records and practice partner record
- Must be familiar with medical terminology, ICD 9, coding of medical procedures and diagnosis
- College Graduate
- English language skills – proficient in spoken, written and comprehension
- Must be a certified pharmacy technician
- Must be proficient in computer skills, spreadsheet and general accounting skills

Ultrasound/X-Ray Technician (01)

- At least six year's experience or related field
- Must hold a Bachelor of Science in Radiology Technology
- Must have over six year's experience in electronic health and practice partner records
- Experience/knowledgeable with practice partner software in electronic health records usage
- Licensed by Medical Professional Licensing Board, CNMI

General Yard Maintenance (02)

- At least two years' experience with preferred skills
- Experienced in assisting a building construction/renovation
- Maintain the interior and exterior of the clinic in a neat and orderly condition
- Maintain plants by transplanting and fertilizing
- Assist in cleaning the clinics' air conditionings
- Flexible in assisting other related maintenance duties
- Flexible with time schedule

Healthcare Clinic System Manager (01)

- Minimum of three to five years work related skills, knowledge or experience
- Bachelor's Degree or equivalent
- Maintain specialized computer programs relating to healthcare operations (medical billing, patients record, scheduler)
- Maintain all of the company's computer system including computer hardware, software, network and advance servers
- Oversee medical billing department by utilizing specialized computer software
- Oversee administrative areas and designs, develop and maintain paperless computer system
- Building maintenance repair, electronic records and prescription with meaningful use in compliance with Medicare and Medicaid standards
- Perform other duties as may be assigned

Interested applicants must submit a resume or pick up an application at Saipan Health Clinic in Chalan Kiya, Saipan. Deadline to submit an application or resume will be on Friday, September 25, 2015 at 4:00pm. For more information, please call 234-2901 ext. 128.

ST. JUDE RENAL CARE FACILITY, INC.

(2) Hemodialysis Technician

- Certified from a Junior College/Technician School in Healthcare
- Attended a Hemodialysis Training Program
- Three years Hemodialysis experienced preferred
- English language skills – proficient in spoken, written and comprehension
- Certification in Basic Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation
- Flexible with time schedule

(1) Registered Nurse

- Must Pass NCLEX-RN with current CNMI RN License
- Attended a hemodialysis training program
- Must hold a degree in Bachelor of Science in Nursing
- One to two years hemodialysis experience or related field
- English language skills – proficient in verbal, written and comprehension
- Certification in Basic Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation
- In-Service training with Baxter Phoenix Machine
- Experience in Ameriwater Bicarbonate Distribution System

Interested applicants must submit an application or resume to St. Jude Renal Care Facility Inc., at Chalan Kiya, Saipan. Deadline to submit an application will be on Friday, September 18, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. For more information, please call (670) 234-2901 ext. 128.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
Bank of the Federated States of Micronesia
Branch: Saipan

Position: Saipan Commercial Loan Officer
– Full Time Employee

Duties:

- Evaluates loan applications and documentation by confirming credit worthiness.
- Improves loan applications and documentation by informing applicant of additional requirements.
- Helps customers by answering questions; responding to requests.
- Assist applicants in filling out applications.
- Maintains customer confidence by keeping loan information confidential.
- Updates job knowledge by participating in educational opportunities; reading professional publications; maintaining personal networks; participating in professional organizations.
- Conducts site visits to borrowers and collateral as necessary.
- Accomplishes bank mission by completing related results as needed.
- All other assigned task related to commercial lending in Saipan.

Skills and Qualifications:
Verbal and Written Communication Skills; High Level of Common Sense, Audit and Financial Skills, Proficiency in Word and Excel Software, Customer Service, Thoroughness, Confidentiality, Analytical Ability, Less Supervision, Professionalism, Quality Focus.

Hourly rate: Minimum of \$8.00 per hour depending on the candidate's qualification.

*Applicant must be willing to undergo training at Pohnpei, Micronesia for at least three months or as long as needed. Willing to travel or temporarily relocate to Pohnpei, if needed.

Interested applicants, kindly email resume to bcaseclang@bfsm.fm and/or bdecourt@bfsm.fm on or before September 30, 2015.

JVA for YANO Enterprises, Inc.
Db: Kinpachi Restaurant

Yano Enterprises, Inc.:


Restaurant Supervisor (1): Must be qualified in restaurant operations, customer service, menu planning, & reservation operations. Must be responsible for the supervision of staff as to dining areas cleanliness in appearance & outside grounds. Ensure any customers issues are addressed immediately and resolved in a manner which exceeds the customer's expectation. Also need to have basic Japanese oral skills. Must have an extensive knowledge of Japanese food products & be able to make orders & preparations.

Additional Requirements: All applicants must be of good health and have a good moral character, must be able to follow grooming standards, must be able to obtain required food handler health certificate, must be able to provide current police clearance, with reliable transportation and must agree to drug test. Can work in flexible hours including weekends and night time.

Applicants of positions listed above required to have a minimum of 2 - 4 year experience. Applications can be picked up at Kinpachi Restaurant in coral Tree Avenue, Garapan.

We are an equal opportunity employer. Qualified applicants will be considered. Applications can be picked up at Kinpachi Restaurant in Coral Tree Avenue, Garapan.

Please no phone calls.



We are seeking for high energy individuals with a positive, can do attitude. Pacific Islands Club, Saipan is inviting qualified, U.S. workers to apply for the following positions:

CLUBMATES
Applicants must have previous related work experience and must pass all American Red Cross Lifeguard requirements (including a 300 yard continuous swim test); Sports-minded individuals are encouraged to apply; Must possess good verbal and written communication skills; Korean, Japanese and/or Russian language skill is a plus; Paid training and free two year lifeguard certification course for eligible candidates; Must be able to work on evenings, weekends and holidays.

GARDENER
Minimum of three (3) years of work experience. Must have working knowledge of landscaping. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.



MERCHANDISE COORDINATOR
Applicant must have a minimum of one (1) year of work experience handling clerical work involved with receiving, storing, stocking, inventory and distribution of supplies for the Boutiki store. Must have good computer skills and have the ability to bend, lift, carry, push, reach and handle inventory supplies weighing 50-75 pounds. Must have the ability to speak, read and comprehend the English language. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

SALES ASSOCIATES
PIC Boutiki seeks highly motivated sales associates to join our team. The ideal candidate will have customer service experience and be able to work flexible hours. Bilingual in Japanese, Korean or Russian a plus. Previous Retail experience preferred, but we are willing to train. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

SEA INFORMATION/CASHIER
Applicants must be able to pass American Red Cross First Aid/CPR certification courses. Applicant must possess strong communication, interpersonal and customer service skills. The position requires a minimum of six (6) months of previous work experience in a cash handling position. The ability to comprehend and speak Japanese, Korean or Russian language is preferred but not required. The position requires the ability to work under pressure and time constraints. The applicant must be able to stand for long periods of time. The applicant must be able to work on a flexible schedule which includes early morning hours, nights, weekends and holidays.

Applications must be received by 5:00pm on Monday, September 28th, 2015.
PIC applications are available at the PIC Security Desk by the Loading Dock/Employee Entrance. Incomplete applications will NOT be accepted or considered. PIC is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY & CULTURAL AFFAIRS



PUBLIC HEARING ANNOUNCEMENT

This is to inform the general public that the Department of Community & Cultural Affairs Division of Youth Services and the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) will be conducting a public hearing on the Social Services Block Grant and the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program state/model plans on the following dates/times.

ISLAND	DATE	TIME	VENUE
Saipan	September 21, 2015	6:00 pm – 7:00 pm	Kobler Youth Center
Tinian	September 15, 2015	5:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Tinian Elementary School
Rota	September 17, 2015	6:00 pm – 7:00 pm	Sinapalo Youth Center

Social Services Block Grant (SSBG)

The basic programs that would be implemented under the Social Services Block Grant Consolidation for the CNMI are based on achieving the following goals: Self-Support, Self-Sufficiency, Protective Services, Preventing or Reducing Inappropriate Institutional Care and Securing other forms of Care.

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is a federally funded program designed to assist eligible low-income households in meeting home cooling needs. LIHEAP alleviates home energy burdens through the provision of energy assistance, energy education, home weatherization and intervention with energy providers on behalf of low-income households. An electronic copy of the draft 2016 SSBG state plan may be viewed at the link below.

<http://www.gov.mp/>
<http://www.dcca.com/>

A copy of the above state plan may also be picked up at the DYS Office of the Administrator in Capitol Hill (located right across the Legislature). For more information, or to submit written comments, you may contact Rita M. Castro, DYS Grant Writer or Vivian T. Sablan, DYS Administrator at 664-2550/2551.

/s/ Vivian T. Sablan
DYS Administrator

/s/Laura T. Ogumoro
DCCA Secretary



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Cowboys overcome mistakes, beat Giants 27-26 on late TD



ARLINGTON, Texas (AP)—Tony Romo threw an 11-yard touchdown pass to Jason Witten with 7 seconds left, and the Dallas Cowboys overcame three turnovers that led to easy New York points to beat the Giants 27-26 on Sunday night.

The Cowboys drove 72 yards in just 1:27 after forcing the Giants to settle for Josh Brown's fourth field goal when a touchdown would have sealed New York's first victory in an opener against Dallas. The Cowboys are 8-0 against New York in openers.

Dominique Rodgers-Cromartie returned a fumble 57 yards for a touchdown, and the Giants had to go just 1 yard for their other TD after Trumaine McBride's interception.

It was the fifth straight win for the defending NFC East champion Cowboys over their division rival.

Rams 34, Seahawks 31

In St. Louis, The Rams stopped Seattle running back Marshawn Lynch short of a first down Sunday, making Greg Zuerlein's 37-yard field goal in overtime decisive.

St. Louis survived an 18-point fourth quarter rally by the Seahawks, who famously passed from the 1 in last February's Super Bowl and were intercepted by New England to lose.

Titans 42, Buccaneers 14

In Tampa, Florida, Marcus Mariota made it look easy, throwing

four touchdown passes and outplaying No. 1 overall draft pick Jameis Winston to lead Tennessee over Tampa Bay.

The highly anticipated debut for the rookie quarterbacks was one-sided from the start, not unlike many of Mariota's dazzling performances in college at Oregon.

The 2014 Heisman winner threw for 209 yards without an interception to join Hall of Famer Fran Tarkenton as the only players to throw four or more TD passes in their first NFL game.

Packers 31, Bears 23

In Chicago, Aaron Rodgers threw for three touchdowns, two to James Jones, as the Packers beat Chicago to spoil John Fox's debut as Bears coach.

The Packers got all they could handle from the rebuilding Bears, but took control down the stretch to beat them for the 10th time in 11 games, including the postseason.

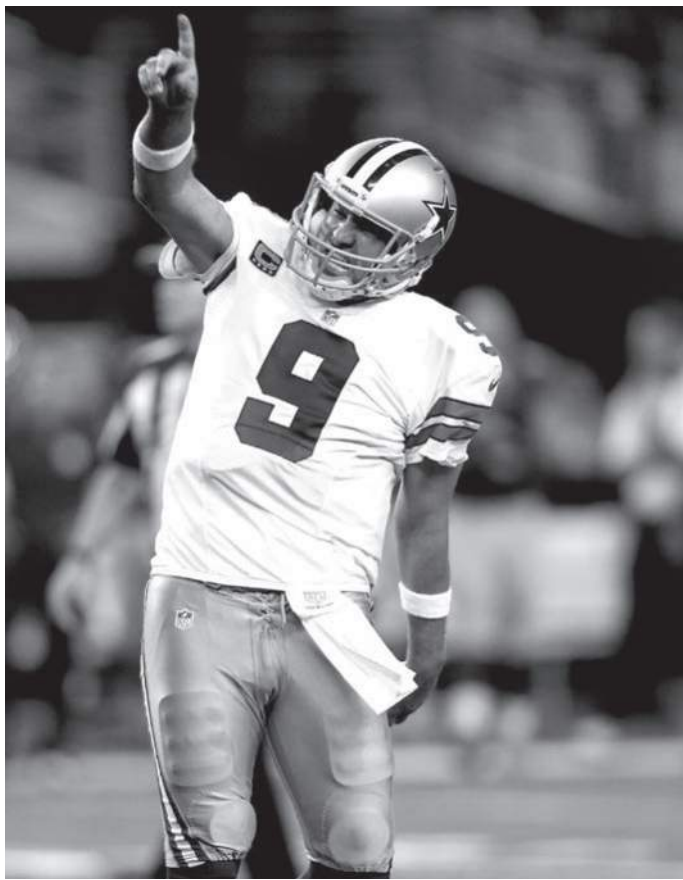
Bills 27, Colts 14

In Orchard Park, New York, Tyrod Taylor engineered three touchdown drives and Rex Ryan's attacking Buffalo defense put the clamps on Andrew Luck.

In his first career start, Taylor went 14 of 19 for 195 yards, including a 51-yard opening touchdown pass to Percy Harvin. Boobie Dixon and rookie Karlos Williams scored touchdowns rushing to deliver Ryan a win in his debut as Bills head coach.

Chiefs 27, Texans 20

In Houston, Alex Smith threw



Dallas Cowboys quarterback Tony Romo (9) celebrates a last minute touchdown pass to tight end Jason Witten (82) to win against the New York Giants during the second half of an NFL football game Sunday, Sept. 13, 2015, in Arlington, Texas.

for 243 yards and three touchdowns in the first half against the mistake-prone Texans.

Travis Kelce caught two touchdown passes in the first quarter, the first coming after Kansas City intercepted Brian Hoyer on his first throw as a Texan.

Dolphins 17, Redskins 10

In Landover, Maryland, Jarvis Landry returned a punt 69 yards

for a touchdown with 10:22 left to give Miami its first lead.

Landry's score broke open a tight game in which the Redskins amassed more yards and dominated the time of possession, but could not pull away.

Jets 31, Browns 10

In East Rutherford, New Jersey, Ryan Fitzpatrick threw two touchdown passes and Chris Ivory ran for two scores in coach Todd Bowles' debut.

The Jets (1-0) had five takeaways against the Browns, including an interception of Johnny Manziel, who came in late in the first quarter for the injured Josh McCown.

Jets rookie linebacker Lorenzo Mauldin was taken to a hospital after being carted off the field with head and neck injuries.

Panthers 20, Jaguars 9

In Jacksonville, Florida, Josh Norman returned an interception for a touchdown as the Panthers did just enough offensively.

Norman provided the big play in the third quarter when he stepped in front of a pass intended for rookie running back T.J. Yeldon near the sideline and went untouched the other way for a 30-yard score. Norman pointed at Jaguars quarterback Blake Bortles as he trotted toward the end zone and then waved bye-bye.

Broncos 19, Ravens 13

In Denver, former Ravens safety Darian Stewart, who followed Gary Kubiak from Baltimore to Denver over the winter, snatched the ball from tight end Crockett Gillmore in the end zone with 28 seconds left to seal a win for Peyton Manning and the Broncos.

Joe Flacco drove the Ravens to the Denver 16 in the final minute. One play before Stewart's interception, cornerback Brady Roby got a hand in Steve Smith Sr.'s face and a would-be touchdown catch bounded away from the veteran receiver.

Cardinals 31, Saints 19

In Glendale, Arizona, Carson Palmer threw three touchdown passes in his first game back from a torn ACL as Arizona opened its season with a victory over New Orleans.

Drew Brees threw for 355 yards, but the Saints had to settle for Zach Hocker's field goals four times.

Arizona's Andre Ellington rushed for 69 yards before being carted off with a right knee injury.

Chargers 33, Lions 28

In San Diego, Philip Rivers rallied San Diego to 30 straight points, including throwing a go-ahead, 13-yard touchdown pass to tight end Ladarius Green early in the fourth quarter, as the Chargers stunned Detroit in what could be their final home opener at Qualcomm Stadium.

Rivers overcame two interceptions, including a 31-yard return for a touchdown by Glover Quin, to complete 35 of 42 passes for 404 yards and two scores.

Bengals 33, Raiders 13

In Oakland, California, Andy Dalton threw for 269 yards and two touchdowns and Jeremy Hill ran for two scores to help Cincinnati spoil coach Jack Del Rio's debut in Oakland.

Dalton had it easy all day long as he faced little pressure and often had receivers running free in the Raiders secondary. He connected on two touchdown passes with tight end Tyler Eifert as the Bengals (1-0) broke out to a 33-0 lead and coasted.

Lowrie's HR caps Astros' 5-run rally in 9th past Angels, 5-3



ANAHEIM, California (AP) —

Pinch-hitter Jed Lowrie hit a three-run homer to complete an astounding five-run rally off Huston Street with two outs in the ninth inning as the Houston Astros stunned the Los Angeles Angels 5-3 Sunday.

The Astros have a 1 1-2 game lead over the Rangers in the AL West and open a four-game series at Texas on Monday.

Preston Tucker started the rally with a two-strike solo homer for the Astros, who got five consecutive hits off Street (3-3), the AL saves leader.

Rangers 12, Athletics 4

In Arlington, Texas, Adrian Beltre homered twice to drive in five runs and Choo Shin-soo also went deep as Texas kept pace in the AL West.

Choo put the Rangers (75-67) ahead with his 18th homer, a solo drive onto the hill beyond center in the first. He was on base for both of Beltre's homers, a two-run shot in the fourth and a three-run blast in the fifth.

Yankees 5, Blue Jays 0

In New York, Masahiro Tanaka allowed four hits over seven innings to lead New York over Toronto and stop the Yankees' five-game losing streak.

Dustin Ackley homered and had three RBIs for the Yankees, who closed back within 3 1/2 games of the AL East-leading Blue Jays with 20 games left.

Indians 7, Tigers 2; game 1 Tigers 9, Indians 2; game 2

In Cleveland, J.D. Martinez drove in three runs as the Detroit Tigers scored four times in the fourth inning to defeat the Cleveland Indians 9-2 and split a doubleheader Sunday.

Rookie Cody Anderson outpitched Justin Verlander for the second time in a week as Cleveland won the first game 7-2.

Nationals 5, Marlins 0

In Miami, Max Scherzer (12-11) won for the first time since July 30 at Miami, allowing five hits in eight innings with no walks and six strikeouts. Scherzer, who lowered his ERA to 2.91, has been 0-3 in his seven previous outings.

Nationals star Bryce Harper

left in the first inning after colliding with Marlins second baseman Derek Dietrich while running the bases. Harper's replacement, Matt den Dekker, hit a solo home run.

Cardinals 9, Reds 2

In Cincinnati, Tommy Pham hit a tiebreaking, two-run homer in the sixth inning and pinch-hitter Matt Adams added a two-run drive in a five-run eighth for his first home run since July 5 as St. Louis rallied from a 2-0 deficit to avoid getting swept in the four-game series.

The Cardinals, on their worst stretch this season, had lost eight of 10 going into the series finale and has been outscored 20-3 in the first three games of the series.

Phillies 7, Cubs 4

In Philadelphia, Ryan Howard homered and drove in three runs.

Chris Coghlan hit a homer and two triples for the Cubs, who lost two straight to the team with the worst record in the majors. Chicago still has a comfortable lead over San Francisco for the second NL wild-card spot.

Red Sox 2, Rays 0

In St. Petersburg, Florida, Rusney Castillo had a go-ahead two-run single in the 13th inning off Andrew Bellatti after Boston loaded the bases against Enny Romero (0-1).

Heath Hembree (1-0) worked out of a two-on, one-out jam in the 12th, and Robbie Ross Jr. allowed a single in the 13th en route to his second save.

Mets 10, Braves 7

In Atlanta, Daniel Murphy hit a tying three-run homer in the ninth against Ryan Kelly and Kirk Nieuwenhuis scored the tiebreaking run on third baseman Hector Olivera's throwing error.

New York swept a four-game series from the Braves for the first time since 1989, won its seventh straight game and maintained a 9½-game lead over second-place Washington with 19 games left.

Twins 7, White Sox 0

In Chicago, Torii Hunter hit a three-run homer and an RBI single for Minnesota, which improved to 13-6 against Chicago this season with four shutouts.

Kyle Gibson (10-10) gave up

five hits in 7 2-3 innings, struck out seven and walked one, and Casey Fien and Michael Tonkin followed with hitless relief.

Pirates 7, Brewers 6

In Pittsburgh, Josh Harrison hit a winning single in the 11th inning off Tyler Thornburg (0-1) as Pittsburgh opened a four-game margin for the NL wild-card lead over the Chicago Cubs, who start a four-game series at the Pirates on Tuesday.

Jared Hughes (3-1) induced Scooter Gennett to hit into an inning-ending double play in the 11th after the Brewers put runners at the corners.

Dodgers 4, Diamondbacks 3

In Phoenix, Zack Greinke won his fourth straight game and pitched eight scoreless innings to lower his major league-leading ERA to 1.61 to help Los Angeles beat Arizona.

Greinke (17-3) won his fourth straight game and eighth in the past nine starts, striking out eight and walking two. Of his 24 outs recorded, only one was a fly ball.

Giants 10, Padres 3

In San Francisco, Mike Leake pitched six strong innings and

hit a three-run homer to help San Francisco complete a three-game sweep.

Buster Posey drove in two runs for the Giants, who have won six of eight.

Leake (10-8) allowed three runs and four hits over six-plus innings. He walked two and struck out two.

Rockies 3, Mariners 2

In Seattle, Nolan Arenado hit a sacrifice fly for his 110th RBI of the season as Colorado scored a pair of runs on Kyle Seager's throwing error.

Arenado, the National League leader in RBIs, capped a third inning when the Rockies scored without a base hit.

Kyle Kendrick (6-12) allowed two runs over five innings to pick up his second straight victory. Odrisamer Despaigne (5-9) took the loss.

Orioles 8, Royals 2

In Baltimore, Chris Davis hit his league-leading 42nd home run, Jonathan Schoop added two solo shots and Baltimore won for the fourth time in five games to preserve its playoff hopes.

The Royals lost seven of nine and dropped their third straight series for the first time this season.

Trench Tech Gym reopens

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

TRENCH TECH

The Trench Tech Gym of mixed martial arts fight promoter Cuki Alvarez opened yesterday after being closed for 43 days due to Typhoon Soudelor last month.

The gym, located beside Alvarez's house at Mihaville/Sugar King Estates along Middle Road in Garapan, suffered minimal damage when Soudelor pounded Saipan last Aug. 2. Mihaville is right across from Century Hotel and Shirley's Coffee Shop Garapan in Middle Road.

"Go straight up, if you're going to take the road directly across the street from Century Hotel then take your second right turn into Adelanto Lp. We're the second house on the right inside corner lot with the blue butler tin roof garage structure," said Alvarez.

Only some of Trench Tech Gym's equipment and gear were damaged but the month-long power outage forced Alvarez to keep the training facility closed.

"We're back on our regular training schedule. Time to get back on the grind. We're also

going to update the monthly dues starting on Oct. 1. In the meantime, come train and get back on track," Alvarez said.

Coed boxersize, MMA, and wrestling are held every Mondays from 6pm to 8pm while a coed circuit training and Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu class are every Tuesdays. BJJ concepts and rolling are reserved from 6:30pm to 8:30pm on Wednesdays.

Thursdays are also leg days along with MMA and BJJ. Coed boxersize returns every Friday with MMA and wrestling takedowns. Saturdays are open mat and BJJ sparring while the gym is closed on Sundays.

Alvarez said that those who will join Jiu-Jitsu classes must have their own gi and an additional fee of \$4 is required for open mat Saturdays inclusive of monthly membership.

The monthly fees for boxersize, circuits, and superlegs are \$30 a month, while \$45 for the three including BJJ classes. A \$35 fee is for gi classes only every Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. For all classes, three hours a day and five days a week, \$50 is the rate.

For more information, call Alvarez at 783-4MMA (4662) or at Twitter @TrenchwarZ or at facebook.com/cuki.alvarez.

Purple Rain nips Kidlat

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



Purple Rain survived Kidlat, 49-48, to bag its second win in three games in the 2015 Blue Haus/IT&E Inter-Color Basketball League last Saturday at the Navy Hill court.

Bruce Berline had a split to give Purple Rain a shaky lead, which it kept as Kidlat committed two crucial turnovers in the homestretch.

The Purple Rain center made his second free throw to break the deadlock and Kidlat went for the quick inbound, but failed to produce a basket, as Boy Garcia and Justin Zapanta had a miscommunication down the right baseline. The two Kidlat players were supposed to run a pick and roll play, but Zapanta slid in late, allowing Purple Rain's R.J. Reyes to partially deflect the ball and later completed the steal.

Purple Rain went on to push the leather to its frontcourt with Donnel Isip on the finishing end, but his banked shot missed the target and the ball rolled down the sideline as the opposing teams battled for the offensive board. The ball hit a Purple Rain player last, awarding possession to Kidlat with 15 seconds left on the clock.

Kidlat called timeout to execute a game-winning play, but



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Three Purple Rain players battle Kidlat's White Capalad, center, for the rebound underneath the basket, while his teammate Justin Zapanta stays in the play during the second half of their game in the Blue Haus-IT&E caging last Saturday at the Navy Hill court.

faltered on its bid, as Manolo Manalo dribbled off his foot on his way to the basket from the top of the key. Reyes picked up the loose ball and sent the leather to Paul Bautista, who went for a fastbreak layup, but his basket was not counted as time had already expired.

Bautista led Purple Rain's close victory with his 14 points, while Berline chipped in 8.

Manalo top-scored for Kidlat with his 25 markers, while Zapanta contributed 15.

Meanwhile, Wag Kang Pabebe cruised to a 74-62 win over Pasion De Amor last Friday.

Four players broke into double figures for Wag Kang Pabebe, which handed Pasion De Amor its second straight loss. Christian Devero registered 20 points, Oscar Mina had 17, and Brendon

Talanía and Stephen Tolosa added 13 and 10, respectively.

Devero and Tolosa combined for Wag Kang Pabebe's first 14 points in the second half to give their team more cushion after leading by only a hair at halftime, 37-36. Mina finished what Tolosa and Devero started, drilling 11 of his total points in the final frame, including Wag Kang Pabebe's last 5 markers.

Bart Demapan had 20 points to lead Pasion De Amor's losing cause. Rey Pestillos tallied 13, but was held to two field goals in the second half, while Esdrelon made only one basket in that period to finish with 12 markers.

FRIDAY

Wag Kang Pabebe 74 – C. Devero 20, Mina 17, Talanía 13, Tolosa 10, Macoto 8, Abadilla 6.

Pasion De Amor 62 – Demapan 20, Pestillos 13, Esdrelon 12, Sahagun 8, N. Arreza 6, B. Arreza 3.

Scoring by halves: 37-36, 74-62.

SATURDAY

Purple Rain 49 – Bautista 14, Berline 8, Leomo 8, Reyes 5, Deleon Guerrero 4, Isip 4, Carioso 4.

Kidlat 48 – Manalo 25, Zapanta 15, Hernandez 4, Capalad 2, Garcia 2.

Scoring by halves: 27-21, 49-48.

LEE

From Page 20

will try my very best to make it to the Top 3 of each competition in Australia."

The 13-year-old player picked up her rackets back and resumed her training session with her father less than two weeks after conquering the girls U16 singles championship in the POJC. She was unbeaten in the singles event in the regional competition and winning the division championship made her the first player in the Pacific Oceania to notch three age group titles in three straight years. The Saipan Community School student took the U12 singles plum in 2013 and the U14 crown last year.

Her victory in Fiji last month also earned her a slot on the Pacific Oceania Touring Team that will be playing in a series of tournaments in the Land Down

Under at the end of the year.

"I am not sure how many tournaments are we going to join so I just have to be ready in each competition. I will continue practicing until December," said Lee, who trains at Kanoa Resort.

Lee was also in Australia last year and claimed the girls U12 singles championship in the 2014 Australia Post Margaret Court Cup held at the Albury Grasscourts in Albury, New South Wales. She stood out in her first tournament after pulling off an upset over top-ranked Kelly Gilmour of Australia in the finals, 6-1, 6-3.

Pacific Oceania's highest-ranked player (No. 780) in the ITF Juniors Circuit made it back-to-back against Gilmour after winning their finals rematch in the 2014 Victorian Junior Grasscourt Championships at the Wodonga Tennis Centre in Victoria.

CNMI

From Page 20

one of the field players, would have to play goalie in the second half. I am curious to find out what they did during the last two games," Chambers added.

At the completion of the festival, the Teen Ayuyus recorded one win (against winless Guam, 4-0), and five goals and gave up only 11 in four matches. The CNMI bets allowed three goals in their game against China and four to Chinese-Taipei before downing Guam last Friday.

Meanwhile, five more U14 players flew from Beijing to Laos yesterday afternoon to join the Commonwealth's U16 team.

Chambers picked up Cole

Chambers, Cody Leon, Josh De Leon, and Dai Podziowski and assistant coach Jacky Lee of Chelsea FC Soccer School Hong Kong at the airport and the group went straight to the National Sports Complex Stadium in Vientiane where the CNMI was scheduled to play Malaysia at 7pm (Saipan time) yesterday. Results of that match were unavailable at press time.

"We really need the subs here in Laos. We can only sub three players during the game, but it is better to have more to choose from," Chambers said. "The four players coming from Beijing will probably arrive too late to suit up and sit on the bench, so we will have to watch from the stands."

DJOKOVIC

From Page 20

the crowd backed Federer but hopes to someday get that sort of support.

"You do let sometimes certain things to distract you," Djokovic said about interacting with the fans. "But it's important to get back on the course and go back to basics and why you are there and what you need to do."

Certainly was able to do that. Contorting his body this way and that, sneakers squeaking loudly as he changed directions or scraping like sandpaper as he slid to reach unreachable shots, Djokovic forced the 34-year-old Federer to put the ball into the tiniest of spaces. Federer wound up with 54 unforced errors, 17 more than Djokovic.

Another key statistic: Djokovic won 10 of the first 12 points that lasted at least 10 strokes.

Perhaps the most pivotal of all: Djokovic saved 19 of the 23 break points he faced, while winning six of Federer's service games.

"Some of them, I could have done better, should have done better," the second-ranked Federer said.

From late in the third set to 5-2 in the fourth, Djokovic took control against a wilting Federer by claiming eight of 10 games. Federer made one last stand, breaking to get within 5-3 and holding for 5-4, but a forehand return that flew long left Djokovic as the champion, pointing to his heart.

After all the attention paid

to Serena Williams' bid for the first calendar-year Grand Slam, which ended with a semifinal loss at the U.S. Open, it's Djokovic who reached all four finals. He beat Andy Murray at the Australian Open in January, lost to Stan Wawrinka at the French Open in June, then beat Federer at Wimbledon in July.

The 28-year-old from Serbia also won a trio of majors in 2011—including his only other title in New York in five previous finals—and his career total ranks tied for seventh-most in history behind Federer.

Djokovic evened his head-to-head record with Federer at 21-all. They have met in three of the last six Grand Slam finals, and Djokovic is 3-0 in those. It is as spectacular a rivalry as there is in tennis right now, with contrasting styles of play.

"Being back in a final is where you want to be," said Federer, who owns five U.S. Open titles but last played for the championship in 2009. "Playing a great champion like Novak is a massive challenge."

His coach, Stefan Edberg, figures an 18th major title is still not out of reach, even though no one Federer's age has won the U.S. Open since 1970.

"You still cannot count him out," Edberg said. "If he keeps playing at this level, he'll get another shot."

Pennetta wins 1st Grand Slam

In New York, even Flavia Pennetta was a tiny bit disappointed

that Serena Williams didn't complete the first Grand Slam since 1988 at the U.S. Open.

"Of course," she said hours after she won her first major title in her final chance before retiring—well aware that had Williams accomplished the feat, it would've meant no championship for Pennetta.

She was thrilled for childhood friend Roberta Vinci for her upset of Williams in Friday's semifinals, but Pennetta was like any other tennis fan captivated by the chance to witness a rare achievement.

"Also, I was thinking it was going to be nice to be on court with her, and maybe lose, but for a moment so special for everyone, for her, for history," she said.

Not that Pennetta intended to lose when she thought for a few hours that her opponent in the final might be the 21-time major champion. Asked about the potential matchup after her semifinal win Friday, Pennetta said with a wry smile: "It's going to be amazing for her to do something like that, and it's going to be amazing for me to win this tournament."

She also warned reporters not to count out Vinci, even though her fellow Italian was down a set at the time.

Vinci's victory set off a whole different kind of stress for Pennetta. Suddenly she was the favorite in her first Grand Slam final.

"It was: Now I have more of a chance," Pennetta said Saturday. "But on the other side, I tried not to put in my mind that I HAD

to win. I had an upset stomach. I even cried. There was an accumulation of emotion."

She controlled those emotions after a shaky start to beat Vinci in straight sets. Then with her post-match interview about to end, she interjected that she had one more thing to say: Pennetta was retiring.

It was a stunning announcement but not a rash decision to go out on top—she had resolved a month earlier to step away from the game at the end of the season.

The 33-year-old was OK that her career was going to end without a major title. Her trainer asked before the U.S. Open if she thought she could still win a Grand Slam championship and Pennetta said no.

"Now they're laughing so much," Pennetta said Saturday about her team.

They've been teasing her: "You have a double personality for sure."

Her fiancé, fellow player Fabio Fognini, said he thought she should stay on tour but respected her decision.

"She's hard-headed, very determined in anything she does," he said.

Fognini, who lost in the fourth round last Sunday, flew back from Italy on Saturday morning to attend the final. He bit his fingernails in the stands at Arthur Ashe Stadium, a nervous spectator in the same venue where he thrilled fans eight days earlier in the most captivating match of this year's U.S. Open before Vinci's upset of Williams.



Cowboys overcome mistakes, beat Giants 27-26 on late TD

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20 TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2015

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Djokovic beats Federer in US Open finals

By HOWARD FENDRICH
AP TENNIS WRITER

NEW YORK (AP)—After winning a point in the U.S. Open final, and bent on proving a point, Novak Djokovic leaped and roared and threw an up-percut, then glared at some of the thousands of spectators pulling for Roger Federer.

Following another point in that game, Djokovic nodded as he smiled toward the stands. And moments later, Djokovic shook his right arm, bloodied by an early fall, and screamed, “Yes! Yes!” to celebrate a missed forehand by Federer.

Djokovic appeared to be all alone out there in Arthur Ashe Stadium, trying to solve Federer while also dealing with a crowd loudly supporting the 17-time major champion proclaimed “arguably the greatest player in the history of the sport” during prematch introductions.



In the end, Djokovic handled everything in a thrill-a-minute final on a frenetic night. Thwarting Federer with his relentless defense and unparalleled returning, Djokovic took control late and held on for a 6-4, 5-7, 6-4, 6-4 victory Sunday to earn his second U.S. Open title, third major championship of the year and 10th Grand Slam trophy in all.

“We pushed each other to the limit,” the No. 1-ranked Djokovic said, “as we always do.”

Djokovic, who is 63-5 in 2015, including 27-1 at majors, said he understood why

See DJOKOVIC on Page 19



Novak Djokovic, of Serbia, reacts after defeating Roger Federer, of Switzerland, in the men's championship match of the U.S. Open tennis tournament, Sunday, Sept. 13, 2015, in New York. AP

CNMI holds North Korea to 4 goals

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

AFC The CNMI U14 National Team limited powerhouse North Korea to four goals during the final game in the AFC U14 Regional Festival of Football 2015 last Sunday at the the National Football Training Centre in Beijing, China.

“The CNMI held North Korea to only four goals. This is a great achievement. North Korea was the strongest team at the festival. They beat Guam something like 14-0,” said team manager Derek Chambers, who received the game’s report from Beijing as he is now in Laos for the AFC U16 Championship India 2016 Qualifiers.

Chambers added the CNMI’s U14 crew limited North Korea’s production without four of its starters—Joshua Abragan, Thaiphia Austria, Jonathan Capayan, and goalkeeper Clayton Izuka—who left Beijing for Laos after their game against Chinese-Taipei last Friday.



The CNMI U14 National Team’s Thaiphia Austria, left, and Cole Chambers perform warm-up drills during a training session in the AFC U14 Regional Festival of Football 2015 last week at the National Football Training Centre in Beijing, China. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

“Four of our starting players had left on Friday to come to Laos, so for the remaining players to do so well defensively says a lot about how hard they all have worked,” said Cham-

bers, who left the squad to fellow manager Eric Abragan. “The goalie situation was interesting for us since four of our players left mid-festival and one of the players was the starting

goalie, Clayton. The last two games (against Guam and North Korea) John Bucayo, the second goalie, would have played the first half, and someone else, **See CNMI on Page 19**



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Carol Lee waits for her opponent’s shot during an off-island tournament early this year.

Lee targets Top 3 finish in Australia

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



After her successful campaign in last month’s Pacific Oceania Junior Championships in Fiji, the CNMI’s Carol Lee is aiming for another notable

performance in Australia later this year.

“I began practicing again last week after my dad (Dong Min Lee) returned to Saipan. I need to train harder because I expect to play against a lot of tough U14 players from Australia and New Zealand this December,” said Lee. “I

See LEE on Page 19